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VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 913.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... 5d.
STAMPED..... 6d.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

The ANNUAL SOIREE will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, on TUESDAY EVENING next, May 5th.

Tea will be on table at Six o'clock, and the Public Meeting will commence at Seven.

THOMAS BARNES, Esq., M.P., will preside, and the Rev. R. HALLIV, D.D., Rev. W. LANDELS, H. J. PRESTON, Esq., Rev. CHARLES VINCE, of Birmingham, and other gentlemen, will deliver addresses.

Tickets—single, 1s. 6d.; double, 2s. 6d.—may be had of Mead and Powell, 61, Cheapside; Mr. Gooch, 55, King William-street, City; Mr. Stock, 62, Paternoster-row; Mr. Freeman, 102, Fleet-street; Mr. Brown, 27, Aldgate; Barnard and Son, 339, Oxford-street; Boshier and Vernon, 14, Goswell-road; Mr. Starling, 97, Upper-street, Islington; Mr. Stow, 4, Camberwell-green; and at the Society's Offices, 2, Serjeants'-Inn, Fleet-street.

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE LOWER CLAPTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

WILL BE LAID BY

Sir SAMUEL MORTON PETO, Bart., M.P.

On TUESDAY AFTERNOON next, May 5th, at Three o'clock. The DEDICATORY PRAYER will be offered by Rev. THOMAS BINNEY, and an ADDRESS be delivered by the Rev. Dr. SPENCE.

The Revs. CLEMENT DUKES, M.A., J. KENNEDY, M.A., ROBERT ROBINSON, JOHN DAVIES, JOHN CORBIN, A. HANNAY, A. MACMILLAN, JOHN NUNN, WILLIAM TYLER, and other Ministers and Gentlemen, will take part in the proceedings.

A TEA and PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Evening at PEMBURY-GROVE CHAPEL SCHOOL-ROOM, when EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq. is expected to preside. Tea at Half-past Five, and Public Meeting at Seven. Tickets for Tea, One Shilling each.

LECTURE-HALL, THREE MILLS-LANE, BROMLEY ST. LEONARD, MIDDLESEX.

The Rev. J. SELLA MARTIN, late Minister of the Baptist Church, Joy-street, Boston, Massachusetts, will commence his ministerial labours as Pastor of the Church at present worshipping in the Lecture Hall, Bromley, on SUNDAY next, May 3.

Service at Eleven o'clock in the Morning and at half-past Six in the Evening. All the Seats are Free, and Hymn-books provided.

PARIS CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, 23, RUE ROYALE, NEAR THE MADELAINE.

Divine Service, Lord's Day, 11 a.m., and 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday Evenings at 7.30 p.m.

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CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWIS-HAM.

A SERMON on behalf of this Institution will be preached on WEDNESDAY EVENING next, May 6th, at the POULTRY CHAPEL, by the Rev. JOHN GRAHAM, of Craven Chapel. Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

In this School above 400 Children, the Sons of Congregational Ministers, have been educated, and 43 are now in the School.

Life Subscribers of Five Guineas and Annual Subscribers of Half-a-Guinea or upwards are entitled to vote at the half-yearly elections.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWIS-HAM.

The Annual Meeting of this Institution was held in the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, on Tuesday, April 28th.

CHARLES REED, Esq., in the Chair.

After the ordinary business, the Poll was taken for the admission of three candidates from the following list, at the close of which the numbers were as follow, and the first three were declared duly elected:—

1. Marchant, J. R. 2,409	7. Richards, J. W. 577
2. Tozer, T. M. 1,679	8. Dunn, G. B. 498
3. Snell, W. E. 1,007	9. Williams, C. H. 232
4. Roberts, K. 851	10. Nicholson, E. T. 184
5. Newton, W. F. 808	11. Lewis, E. S. 160
6. Merchant, W. 791	12. Bailey, A. 5

GEORGE ROSE, Secretary.

Surrey-square, Old Kent-road, S.

POLAND.—The CENTRAL COMMITTEE

of the FRIENDS of POLAND, authorised by the delegate of the Polish National Government, earnestly ASK for immediate SUBSCRIPTIONS to the account of their Treasurer, P. A. Taylor, Esq., M.P., at Messrs Oldings, Osborne, and Co. A. Clements-lane, E.C., or by money order to their Secretary, Mr. W. E. Adams, 10, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

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SIXTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES of the RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

On WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 6th, a SERMON will be preached in SURREY CHAPEL, by the Rev. JOHN CUMMING, D.D., Minister of the Scotch Church, Covent-garden. Divine Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

On THURSDAY EVENING, May 7th, a SERMON will be preached at the Church of ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAP-SIDE, by the Rev. CHARLES KEMBLE, A.M., Rector of Bath. Divine Service will commence at Seven o'clock.

On FRIDAY EVENING, May 8th, the ANNUAL MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL.

The chair will be taken at half-past Six precisely by

Sir FRANCIS CROSSLEY, Bart., M.P.

The Revs. E. GARRETT, B.A., Incumbent of St. Bartholomew's, London; NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., Minister of Surrey Chapel; C. D. MARSHON, Rector of St. Mary's, Bryanston-square; JOHN RICHARDSON, A.M., Bury St. Edmunds; and C. H. SPURGEON, Minister of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, have engaged to address the meeting.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE of the EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE will (D.V.) be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, on THURSDAY, May 7, 1863, at which Christian Friends, prominently engaged in the various departments of Evangelical labour in different parts of London and the Country, will be present, with a view to mutual acquaintance and encouragement, and to the taking of counsel together as Brethren in the unity of the Spirit and common faith of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ROBERT BAXTER, Esq., will Preside.

Tea at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, One Shilling each, may be had at 7, Adam-street, Strand, or at the Door of the Hall.

PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the PASTORS' RETIRING FUND will be held in the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINCHBURY, on WEDNESDAY, May 13th, at Five o'clock p.m.

ROBERT PERGUEON, Hon. Sec.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MANAGERS, Town and Country, will be held in the same place on the Afternoon of the same day at Four o'clock p.m.

April 21st, 1863. R. F.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION in INDIA.

The FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING of the CHRISTIAN VERNACULAR EDUCATION SOCIETY for INDIA will be held in WILLIS'S ROOMS on FRIDAY next, the 1st of May.

The Right Hon. Sir JOHN LAWRENCE, Bart., G.C.B., will take the Chair at half-past Two o'clock.

Tickets may be had at the Office, 7, Adam-street, Strand, Adelphi.

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At the 105th Annual Meeting of Governors, held at the London Tavern, on Friday, April 24, for the Election of Thirty from a List of 127 Candidates, and for other business,

JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., M.P., in the Chair, the following were declared to be successful:—

1. Elliott, Emma 278	16. Dixon, Charles 404
2. Cole, Emma Jane 260	17. Purvis, William 404
3. Pag, Annie Esther 220	18. Rice, George Thomas 402
4. Hopson, Mary E. 212	19. Scrase, Wm. Henry 402
5. Sayer, Harriet Louise 192	20. Haines, Henry Wm. 388
6. Farr, Emma Susannah 187	21. Glennie, Alfred Wm. 386
7. Hunt, Belinda 182	22. Fowle, Edward 379
8. Griffiths, Annie Ruth 144	23. Hooker, Alfred 373
9. Carpenter, Hannah 104	24. Box, Ebenezer G. 371
10. Jackson, Mary Sophia 100	25. Vaughan, John Fredk. 369
11. Newburn, William 453	26. Johnson, William 369
12. Jackson, William 429	27. Hunt, Edmund 364
13. Howley, Joseph F. 426	28. Hagcock, Harriid C. 363
14. Howard, Harry 422	29. Donnet, Henry J. 312
15. Newby, Ernest Clark 412	30. Robins, Herbert W. 360

Resolved unanimously,—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be presented to John Remington Mills, Esq., M.P., for presiding this day, and to the Scrutineers, for their care in taking the ballot."

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

THIRTY ORPHAN CHILDREN will be ADMITTED in OCTOBER. Forms to fill up may be had on application. There is accommodation for 100 more Children than are at present in the Schools. As soon as Funds are available the Vacancies will be filled up; for this purpose, and for the general objects of the Charity, Contributions are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received.

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The ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the CHILDREN is unavoidably POSTPONED until further notice.

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Tea will be on table at Six o'clock, and the Public Meeting will commence at Seven.

THOMAS BARNES, Esq., M.P., will preside, and the Rev. R. HALLEY, D.D., Rev. W. LANDELS, H. J. PRESTON, Esq., Rev. CHARLES VINCE, of Birmingham, and other gentlemen, will deliver addresses.

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On TUESDAY AFTERNOON next, May 5th, at Three o'clock.

The DEDICATORY PRAYER will be offered by Rev. THOMAS BINNEY, and an ADDRESS be delivered by the Rev. Dr. SPENCE.

The Revs. CLEMENT DUKES, M.A., J. KENNEDY, M.A., ROBERT ROBINSON, JOHN DAVIES, JOHN CORBIN, A. HANNAY, A. MACMILLAN, JOHN NUNN, WILLIAM TYLER, and other Ministers and Gentlemen, will take part in the proceedings.

A TEA and PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Evening at PEMBURY-GROVE CHAPEL SCHOOL-ROOM, when EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq., is expected to preside. Tea at Half-past Five, and Public Meeting at Seven. Tickets for Tea, One Shilling each.

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The Rev. J. SELLA MARTIN, late Minister of the Baptist Church, Joy-street, Boston, Massachusetts, will commence his ministerial labours as Pastor of the Church at present worshipping in the Lecture Hall, Bromley, on SUNDAY next, May 3.

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A SERMON on behalf of this Institution will be preached on WEDNESDAY EVENING next, May 6th, at the POULTRY CHAPEL, by the Rev. JOHN GRAHAM, of Craven Chapel. Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

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CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWIS-HAM.

The Annual Meeting of this Institution was held in the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street, on Tuesday, April 28th.

CHARLES REED, Esq., in the Chair.

After the ordinary business, the Poll was taken for the admission of three candidates from the following list, at the close of which the numbers were as follow, and the first three were declared duly elected:

1. Marchant, J. R. 2,409	7. Richards, J. W. 527
2. Tozer, T. M. 1,679	8. Dunn, G. B. 436
3. Snell, W. E. 1,007	9. Williams, C. R. 232
4. Roberts, K. 851	10. Nicholson, E. T. 184
5. Newton, W. F. 808	11. Lewis, E. S. 160
6. Merchant, W. 791	12. Bailey, A. 5

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POLAND.—THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

of the FRIENDS of POLAND, authorised by the delegate of the Polish National Government, earnestly ASK for immediate SUBSCRIPTIONS to the account of their Treasurer, P. A. Taylor, Esq., M.P., at Messrs. Oldings, Osborne and Co's, Clement's-lane, E.C., or by money order to their Secretary, Mr. W. E. Adams, 10, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

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On WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 6th, a SERMON will be preached in SURREY CHAPEL, by the Rev. JOHN CUMMING, D.D., Minister of the Scotch Church, Covent-garden. Divine Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

On THURSDAY EVENING, May 7th, a SERMON will be preached at the Church of ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAP-SIDE, by the Rev. CHARLES KEMBLE, A.M., Rector of Bath. Divine Service will commence at Seven o'clock.

On FRIDAY EVENING, May 8th, the ANNUAL MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL.

The chair will be taken at half-past Six precisely by

Sir FRANCIS CROSSLEY, Bart., M.P.

The Revs. E. GARRETT, B.A., Incumbent of St. Bartholomew's, London; NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., Minister of Surrey Chapel; C. D. MAURISTON, Rector of St. Mary's, Bryanston-square; JOHN RICHARDSON, A.M., Bury St. Edmunds; and C. H. SPURGEON, Minister of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, have engaged to address the meeting.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE of the EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE will (D.V.) be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, on THURSDAY, May 7, 1863, at which Christian Friends, prominently engaged in the various departments of Evangelical labour in different parts of London and the Country, will be present, with a view to mutual acquaintance and encouragement, and to the taking of counsel together as Brethren in the unity of the Spirit and common faith of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ROBERT BAXTER, Esq., will Preside.

Tea at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, One Shilling each, may be had at 7, Adam-street, Strand, or at the Door of the Hall.

PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the PASTORS' RETIRING FUND will be held in the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY, on WEDNESDAY, May 13th, at Five o'clock p.m.

ROBERT FERGUSON, Hon. Sec.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MANAGERS, Town and Country, will be held in the same place on the Afternoon of the same day at Four o'clock p.m. April 21st, 1863. R. F.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION in INDIA.

The FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING of the CHRISTIAN VERNACULAR EDUCATION SOCIETY for INDIA will be held in WILLIS'S ROOMS on FRIDAY next, the 1st of May.

The Right Hon. Sir JOHN LAWRENCE, Bart. G.C.B., will take the Chair at half-past Two o'clock.

Tickets may be had at the Office, 7, Adam-street, Strand, Adelphi.

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JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., M.P., in the Chair, the following were declared to be successful:—

1. Elliott, Emma. 278	16. Dixon, Charles. 404
2. Cole, Emma Jane. 260	17. Purvis, William. 404
3. Pag, Annie Esther. 220	18. Rice, George Thomas. 402
4. Hopson, Mary E. 212	19. Scrace, Wm. Henry. 402
5. Sayer, Harriet Louise. 192	20. Haines, Henry Wm. 388
6. Parr, Emma Susannah. 187	21. Glennie, Alfred Wm. 386
7. Hunt, Belinda. 182	22. Fowle, Edward. 379
8. Griffiths, Annie Ruth. 144	23. Hooker, Alfred. 372
9. Carpenter, Hannah. 104	24. Box, Ebenezer G. 371
10. Jackson, Mary Sophia. 100	25. Vaughan, John Fredk. 368
11. Newburn, William. 453	26. Johnson, William. 359
12. Jackson, William. 429	27. Hunt, Edmund. 356
13. Horsley, Joseph F. 428	28. Hancock, Harriell C. 353
14. Howard, Harry. 422	29. Dennett, Henry J. 312
15. Newby, Ernest Clark. 413	30. Robins, Herbert W. 340

Resolved unanimously,—

"That the best thanks of this meeting be presented to John Remington Mills, Esq., M.P., for presiding this day, and to the Scrutineers, for their care in taking the ballot."

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

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THIRTY ORPHAN CHILDREN will be ADMITTED in OCTOBER. Forms to fill up may be had on application. There is accommodation for 100 more Children than are at present in the Schools. As soon as Funds are available the Vacancies will be filled up; for this purpose, and for the general objects of the Charity, Contributions are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received.

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The ANNUAL EXAMINATION of the CHILDREN is unavoidably POSTPONED until further notice.

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For the year 1865 the total Exports and Imports of New Zealand were

For the year 1860 £1,179,327

For the year 1861 2,137,236

For the year 1862 3,864,058

For the THREE QUARTERS ending 30th September, 1862 5,241,411

The value of GOLD exported from OTAGO alone was:—

In 1861 £727,313

In 1862 1,540,708

The latest accounts show that the same ratio of increase is being maintained. The following is an extract from the Melbourne correspondent of the "Times," published in that paper on the 13th April, 1863:—"The weekly production (of gold) in the province of Otago, ranges from 12,000 to 15,000 ounces, and new fields are opening out in all directions."

The rapid increase in the export of WOOL from NEW ZEALAND is remarkable:—

In 1855, it was 1,447,200 lbs.

In 1856, " 3,562,800 lbs.

In 1861, " 7,512,000 lbs.

In 1862, " 8,508,900 lbs.

Notwithstanding these facts there is BUT ONE Bank specially established for New Zealand (having its Head Office at Auckland), with a paid-up capital of 250,000l.; and the only other banking facilities are derived from mere Branches and Agencies of Institutions whose chief business is in Australia, where their capital is mostly employed.

The Bank of New Zealand (established in 1861) declared, in the first year of its existence, a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent.; but its actual net profit for the year was much larger.

The Head-office will be in London, the Chief Branch at DUNEDIN (OTAGO), and Branches or Agencies will be established at such other settlements as the Directors may from time to time deem advisable.

The progress of the existing Colonial Banks, is strikingly exhibited in the following table:—

Name of Bank.	Paid-up Capital.	Paid-up per Share.	Present Price per Share.
Australasia	£900,000	£40	£2
Victoria	500,000	25	38
New South Wales	750,000	20	50
Union of Australia	1,000,000	25	51
London Chartered of Australia	1,000,000	20	28
New Zealand	250,000	5	10

Prospectuses, and Forms of Application for Shares, may be obtained from the Brokers, or at the Temporary Offices of the Company.

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COFFEE gives instantaneously a delicious Cup of Coffee with boiling water or milk merely. To be had in bottles at 1s. and 2s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Chymists, and Italian Warehousemen.—69, Coleman-street, City, LON, don; and 21, Duke-street, Edinburgh.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 913.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1863.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE LORDS AND THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

THE Lords have once more done the Liberation Society the honour of making its existence and operations the pretext for declining to get rid of a confessedly useless provision of law. For the fifth time Mr. Hadfield's Qualification for Offices Abolition Bill went up to the serene atmosphere of their Lordships' House, and for the fourth time it has been discussed and rejected. As it is impossible for us to say anything new upon the object of the measure, upon the reasons that can be urged in support of it, or upon the treatment to which the Peers of the realm do not think it beneath their dignity to subject it, we could have wished to have escaped the necessity of writing another sentence on the matter—but our readers will expect from us an observation or two on the debate, and, therefore, following the example of those above us, we shall dismiss the Bill with the single remark that the second reading of it was refused by a majority of seventeen, and shall restrict our attention to the relation which the second estate of the realm has thought proper to assume towards the Liberation Society.

Has it never struck their Lordships that to give an organised body the reputation of great strength, tends to give it the reality also? How will the country interpret the speeches of those who conducted the opposition to this Bill, and the vote at which by a majority the House arrived? Here is a demand for something to be done which it is allowed on all hands may be done with perfect safety—for the abolition of a test for disregarding which an Act of Indemnity must be yearly passed to relieve from the penalties to which they have exposed themselves the only class of persons who can be imagined to require one, and which merely affixes a badge of inferiority to other classes for whose abstinence from a prohibited use of their official influence in a specified direction any test must be superfluous. The declaration which Mr. Hadfield's Bill would abolish is of so little practical value that it would scarcely be missed if it were torn from the statute-book to-morrow, and the institution which it was framed to protect is one which is believed to have struck its roots deep into the very soul of the nation. It is proposed to their Lordships to give up the weakest and most worthless of securities by which the strongest and most venerated of the institutions of the country is nominally protected—and the Lords, though otherwise indifferent to its maintenance, are afraid to get rid of it because there is a Liberation Society in existence, and the proposition is believed to have originated with its Committee. Well, at any rate, the society has no reason to complain of the estimate at which the House of Lords rates its power and influence.

What is it in the Liberation Society which inspires in the noble House of hereditary legislators such excessive dread that they fear to do an act of grace, five times conceded by the representative branch of the Legislature, lest, forsooth, their doing it should fall in with the designs of that terrible organisation? Is it the number of its members? Why, when it suits their purpose, the Lords who oppose this measure describe the society as comprising a very small minority even of the Dissenters, and all the Dissenting bodies as a minority of the people. Is it their rank, their wealth, or their political power? Are we not reminded again and again that the Church to whose political supremacy the society is opposed, includes the Sovereign, all the nobility, the greater proportion by far of the landed gentry, the bulk of the highly educated and the rich, and that she has, in addition, the good-will of the more reasonable part of all the denominations which dissent from her? Do not twenty-six spiritual peers sit by right of their baronies in the House of Lords? Is not the House of Commons mainly made up of men who profess devoted adherence to the Church Establishment? Will 4,000*l.* a-year, the average income of the Liberation Society, bear comparison with the pecuniary resources of those who are deeply and even personally interested in baffling its projects? Is it the extravagance of the doctrines enounced by the Liberation Society which invests it with such terrors in the eyes of the Lords? Usually, the views with which it is sought by any party to indoctrinate the public mind in this country are innocuous just in proportion as they are extreme, and the more boldly and baldly they are put forward the more likely they are to prevent rather than to gain adherents. Lord Lyttelton tells the society that it has itself to thank for being refused the smallest favour, and that it was only by withholding its opinions that it had the smallest chance of success. And yet this society, so weak, so poor, so foolish, excites the alarm of their Lordships to such a degree that its existence is made the ground for declining to abolish, at its instance, a legal security which is admitted to be no security at all.

Folks will naturally ask what is at the bottom of this apparently gratuitous fear? It cannot be that the Peers, spiritual and temporal, suspect that the Church Establishment will lose its hold upon the country in proportion as its merits are challenged and discussed. That would be tantamount to a confession that the predominance of the Church, albeit it forms an integral part of the British constitution, is, after all, an anomaly that will not bear looking into. The Lords who have consented to the abolition of every other monopoly cannot be supposed to entertain any doubt as to the defensibility of a monopoly of spiritual ministration. They must be regarded as having unlimited confidence in the soundness and stability of the peculiar institution they guard with such unsleeping vigilance. They surely cannot conceive it possible that against so good a cause the efforts of the Liberation Society can be successful. But the question still returns, what are they afraid of? Are they acquainted with any secret weakness in their client which the slightest indulgence shown to her foes might help them to detect? Certainly, they are likely to be more intimately acquainted with the inward infirmities of the institution than we are who see it only from without. The whole thing is a puzzle to us—a mystery which we try in vain to solve. And yet the fact is patent enough, having been paraded by the Lords themselves, that the Liberation Society cannot expect to get the least of what they ask because the House of Peers is fearful that having got that they might succeed in getting all they want. Let no one taunt them henceforth with their weakness! The Lords have proclaimed a belief in, and dread of, their formidable strength.

The society has, however, to thank both branches of the Legislature for the measure of influence it enjoys. A few trifling concessions

would have made its ulterior work most difficult of accomplishment. Since, between the two nothing whatever is to be got—since the country perceives that every demand, reasonable or unreasonable, trifling or important, is equally refused, and refused merely because the society asks for it—we cease to have the smallest misgiving as to the progress of its views in public opinion. We shall never be without influence so long as Lords and Commons unite to bear witness to its extent. Last week the Upper House refused to act reasonably lest we might be encouraged thereby. This day, probably, the House of Commons will rescind above a score of its former decisions for the same flattering reason, and will reject the Church-rate Abolition Bill to show their hostility to, and fear of, the Liberation Society. Where there is so much smoke there must be some fire. We begin to suspect that the efforts of the society must, after all, have proved more effective than its warmest friends have ever permitted themselves to imagine.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

SOME fifteen hundred years ago Tertullian, the Christian Apologist of Carthage, wrote the following words respecting the mode of supporting religion in the Early Church. "The services of God," he says, "are free from any pecuniary charge. If there is any fund, it is raised not by a burdensome tax, such as a grinding superstition imposes, but each person presents monthly, or whenever he chooses, a moderate contribution; and not even that unless his circumstances permit him to follow the bent of his inclination. For no one is under compulsion, but each gives cheerfully, so these offerings constitute, as it were, the sacrifices of genuine devotion."

We thought of these words as we read, in the *Guardian* of last week, two small paragraphs respecting the working of the Offertory system. It is reported that in St. Mary's, Devonport, "a very poor district," the weekly offertory has exceeded by 25*l.* that of the previous year, and that at St. Raphael's, Bristol, the whole amount collected has been 31*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* against 24*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, the previous year. These churches are free from "a burdensome tax," and, no doubt, all who support this admirable system of collecting money for the support of the worship of God, "give cheerfully," and so their "offerings constitute, as it were, the sacrifice of genuine devotion." The extension of the Offertory system in the Church is a larger subject than can be treated in this column of our paper, but we gladly note any and every statement, such as the above, in proof of the fact that, whether by spontaneous choice or by compulsion, Churches are gradually abandoning the taxing system. It is curious and refreshing, too, to read how loudly and warmly the theory and practice of the most ultra Voluntarism is praised whenever the results of the Offertory movement are spoken of. The most interesting debate in the Oxford Church Congress was on this subject. There, speaker after speaker rose, in glowing ardour and animation, to speak the praises of a system which so successfully encouraged the practice of cheerful and voluntary giving. One enlarged on it as a Scriptural duty, another said it was a return to the principles of the Primitive Church, a third remarked how everybody liked it, a fourth quoted statistics to show how successful it was, and a fifth exclaimed that a forgotten and neglected mine of wealth had been discovered. It was only a fortnight ago that, at "an important rural dean meeting," held at Newmarket, at which Lord Arthur Hervey presided, the Rural Dean of Fordham testified that the plan had "seldom if ever failed. There is not only," he added, "a willingness, but even a desire, on the part of our worshippers to contribute to the

expenses of Divine worship. There is a common saying amongst them, 'What is worth having is worth paying for.' I would also adopt, as far as possible, the offertory in any church where Church-rates had been given up, or where an endowment had been provided for the fabric, and the expense of Divine worship falls necessarily on the congregation. Wherever it has been established it is asserted that there is such a steadiness in the amount contributed as cannot be calculated on in any other way."

We could multiply similar observations to this by the score. They are chronicled, for the most part, month by month, in the *Church of the People*, a journal established and kept up by a small but very earnest section of the Establishment, for the purpose of promoting a return to the practice of the Primitive Church in this matter. We read this journal, as we have read the proceedings of the Oxford Congress, and the occasional announcements that appear in Church journals, with a vivid, but, as we have said, a curious interest. Are we too sanguine in expressing the expectation and belief that the Episcopal Church in this country is thus slowly groping its way towards entire self-support? The gradual extension of the Offertory system, the sanction it has received, the success which is acknowledged, on all hands, to have followed its adoption—what is this but Voluntarism carried into practice in an even better way than, as a rule, Nonconformist Voluntaries practise it? It is not called Voluntarism, but the willing and conscious adoption of the principle for which we are contending will inevitably follow the practice of it. They who walk in the light will see the light. You must follow the truth before you can know it. Whenever the Church has followed this truth, it has both known and approved it.

Yet, strange to say, the very parties who thus heap praises upon the virtue and the success of the Offertory system, are the parties who cry most loudly for enforcing the compulsory system on Dissenters! The very people who are so proud of the results of their faith wherever it has been tried, are the very people who hold in scorn all others who walk in the same way, while they ridicule even the notion of putting this principle to the test in any place where it has not yet been tried. We can only look upon this as an illustration of the perversity of human nature, and the force of ecclesiastical habit. In such way we look upon the *Clerical Journal* and the *Guardian's* excited congratulations with each other on this defeat of the Burials Bill, and their call to arms for a rejection of Sir John Trelawny's measure and Mr. Dillwyn's motion. We have never read, in any journals, such triumphant exultations over the success of the claims of ecclesiastical supremacy as we have read in the papers we have named, and in the *Press* newspaper. Churchmen can scarcely contain themselves within bounds when speaking on the matter. They exult like a Spanish inquisitor when he has seen a heretic burnt at the stake. It is a source of "lively satisfaction," and a harbinger of victories to come. As things are, may such victories come more and more quickly! Will Dissenters be the first to rue them?

Will they? When Churchmen obtained their very first advance on the Church-rate question they began to suspect that they had done too much, and a proposal for the exemption of Dissenters immediately followed. Now that they have defeated the Burials Bill we notice a similar disposition to compromise. A correspondent of the *Guardian* states, very correctly, and very conclusively, the law of burial in parish churchyards as respects Dissenters. He quotes the well-known legal commentator, Mr. Stephen, to prove that the clergy are "bound to read the Burial Service over bodies brought to be interred"; and the 68th Canon, which makes it imperative on all ministers to bury any corpse "in such manner and form as is prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer." Sir John Nichol has interpreted these laws with perfect consistency in his judgment in the case of "Kemp v. Wickes," to which especial attention, also, is called. Sir John, whose authority on ecclesiastical law was equal to that which Dr. Lushington now enjoys, remarked, in this case, that the Church does not refuse the office of burial to all persons who are not conforming members of the Church, and that there was no law to be found to this effect. But he added, "the minister is to read the service; our Church knoweth no such indecency as putting the body into the consecrated ground without the service being at the same time performed." Hence it follows that no Dissenter has a legal right to burial without the presence and service of the parish minister or curate. And now, Churchmen are suggesting that this right may be conceded. "The confirmation or extension," says the *Guardian*, "of

a common right of burial in churchyards without any religious service may, if the state of the law require it, reasonably be conceded." Ay! two hundred years ago, Nonconformists would have been satisfied with a simple revision of the Prayer-book. They were cast out with contempt. Less than thirty years ago some would have been content to accept the solution of the Church-rate question by throwing the rate on the Consolidated Fund; seven years ago they would have taken a fair exemption. Every one and all of these schemes Churchmen rejected with scorn and contumely,—now, they would thankfully offer them. So of the Burials Bill. A day will come when they will press upon Dissenters a measure similar to that which Sir Morton Peto framed, and ask them to accept the total abolition of Church-rates as a satisfaction of all demands. Have they never heard of the Sybil's leaves? Have they never read history? Have they no knowledge of human nature? If they had only been once wise enough to make timely concessions, the Liberation Society would have been, in all probability, an impossible realisation. And the day may come, as we believe it will, when they themselves will fly to the Society to effect an equitable adjustment of their rightful and legitimate claims.

We thought it scarcely possible that the Lord Chancellor's Bill could be looked at very long by conscientious Churchmen without its dangers being perceived. The *Clerical Journal* is now alive to the fact that it is open to objection, and will probably be severely opposed, while "A Perpetual Curate" expresses his belief that "by it worse men will be appointed to the livings," because, firstly, "they would mostly be given to near relations, or disposed of again by sale," secondly, there is danger of their passing into the hands of clergymen, and, thirdly, "it is a robbery of the Church, and a confiscation, to a great extent, of the endowment, and this is a great crime." We are glad to hear from this curate that "others entertain" the same objections to this scandalous measure.

We have noticed once or twice, lately, that there is an opinion apparently prevailing in the pro-Church-rate party, to the effect that there are no Church-rate contests now. Beaten in Parliament, and dead in the parishes, is the opinion of this section with respect to the Church-rate agitation. Our columns of intelligence would alone be a sufficient reply to this allegation, but we can say, in addition to the intelligence which is communicated in this manner, that there has never been a time when the opposition to Church-rates in the parishes and in the law-courts has been so strenuous and so successful as it has been during the present month. The defeat of Sir John Trelawny's bill to-day will, we believe, be the signal for a vestry war which shall spread from end to end of the kingdom.

The May meetings have commenced—the Baptist Union leading the way. We direct particular attention to the remarks of the Rev. J. H. Hinton, the chairman of this body, on the subject of denominational union. Admirably did Mr. Hinton express the state of the matter. "They must become better and wiser Christians—must better understand the will of the Lord, and then they would come together without solicitation." The discussion on this subject which followed Mr. Hinton's remarks was a very significant as well as a most interesting one. We need not call attention to the proceedings at the Regent's-park College on the occasion of the presentation of the Hinton and Steane portraits. It would have been gratifying if this ceremony could have been made a Nonconformist and not a denominational demonstration. To what extent others than Baptists had opportunity of subscribing to these well-earned testimonies of respect we do not know, but we are informed that some Congregationalists, who very cordially gave donations to this object, were not invited to be present.

The position taken by some High-Churchmen with regard to the ecclesiastical habits and relations of the Royal Family has lately been the subject of frequent comment. It has been openly and repeatedly stated that the marriage of the Prince of Wales in Lent was very distasteful to this party. A correspondent of the *English Churchman* now asks whether the Royal Family "ever attend church more than once on a Sunday, and if they ever attend during week days"? The impudence of this question is only equalled by the clerical arrogance which dictated the exhibition of the High-Church spirit during Lent. What, however, will now be said? On Monday, as we read in the *Court Circular*, a Dissenting service was performed in Windsor Castle. The new granddaughter of her Majesty—the child of the English Princess Alice—was "christened" on that day according to the rites of the Lutheran

Church. The Dean of Windsor—who took no part in the ceremony—was the only ecclesiastic of the Established Church present. At the State-dinner which followed there was not a single representative of the Establishment. Such an event has not, we believe, occurred in England since the days of the Great Protector.

THE RECENT LIBERATION MEETINGS AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

The conference and public meeting lately held at Newcastle have had the effect of stimulating to action the local Church of England Institute, which has challenged Mr. Miall to a public discussion with "a clergyman of position." The challenge has not been accepted, for reasons which are stated in the correspondence which we subjoin:—

No. 1.

Church of England Institute, Percy-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 21, 1863.

To Edward Miall, Esq.

Sir,—Your recent visit to Newcastle was expressly for the purpose of establishing, or re-establishing, here, a society whose object is the separation of Church and State, and the alienation of Church property. In your speech on that occasion you took for granted that any endowment of religion by the State is unscriptural, and you proceeded to enlarge upon evils thence resulting both to Churchmen and Dissenters.

Now, Sir, the committee of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Church-Defence Association feel that it is of the utmost importance that you produce your proofs of the position here assumed. Without such proofs you cannot hope either to convince your opponents or to "enlighten" those who are disposed to favour your views. Indeed, the issue is a solemn and momentous one. For, if the principle of an Establishment be contrary to the Word of God, the Church of our fathers must be pulled down and re-erected on a new ecclesiastical basis; but if, on the other hand, the union of Church and State be in accordance with the mind of the Spirit, then you and your colleagues are waging war with the truth as it is in Jesus. This is an awful alternative, and thus demands calm, and full, and able examination.

We beg, therefore, on behalf of the Church-Defence Association, to invite you to a public discussion of the following subject:—"The Governments of the world are responsible to Jesus Christ for the spiritual and temporal care of the people entrusted to their charge, and consequently the endowment of the Church by the State is a solemn duty."

A clergyman of position is prepared to meet you. We send the challenge to you, Sir, "as [in the words of the Rev. W. Walters, according to the report in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*] the apostle of that great [the Liberation] society, and one who, from the way in which he gives forth its principles with that moral and convincing power which accompanies all the truths heard from his lips, must be regarded as a man in every way worthy of confidence, respect, and love." We communicate also with the London and local secretaries of the Liberation Society, and we hope, with their assistance, to make such arrangements as shall be suitable to the convenience of both parties, and be conducive to the development of the truth.

We expect, Sir, to hear from you as soon as possible, and we need scarcely add that this correspondence will be made public.

Signed on behalf of the committee,

WILLIAM J. HARDING, chairman of meeting.

Rev. J. DUNNE PARKER, acting secretary.

No. 2.

To the Rev. James Dunne Parker, acting secretary of the Church-Defence Association, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Rev. Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 21st inst., in which, on behalf of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Church-Defence Association, you invite me to a public discussion with a "clergyman of position," whom you do not name, of a question the terms of which have been settled by the challenging party exclusively. Referring to a recent visit of mine to Newcastle on behalf of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control, you remind me that in my speech on that occasion I took for granted that any endowment of religion by the State is unscriptural, and you observe that it is of the utmost importance that I should produce proof of the position I then assumed, on account of the solemn and momentous nature of the issue.

I find no difficulty in agreeing with you as to the extreme gravity of the interests involved in the policy sought to be realised by the Liberation Society, and I have endeavoured to keep it prominently and steadily in view in all the efforts which I have felt it my duty to make in support of it since the organisation of the society in 1844. I admit, further, without the slightest hesitation, that a mere assumption of so important a position as that State endowments of religion are inconsistent with the teaching of the Scriptures, unsustained by proof, would, if systematically resorted to, fairly expose the society to rebuke. I presume, however, that on the hypothesis that the society habitually recognises the necessity of such evidence, lays great stress upon it, and can refer both to its own publications and to the usual strain of the speeches and lectures of its representatives, as showing its sense of the value of this aspect of the question, it can hardly be incumbent upon every speaker in every speech to go into this branch of the question as if it had never been seriously discussed. First principles to the establishment of which no little labour has been already devoted, must be sometimes taken for granted.

You invite me to discuss the following proposition:—"The Governments of the world are responsible to Jesus Christ for the spiritual and temporal care of the people entrusted to their charge, and consequently the endowment of the Church by the State is a solemn duty." I respectfully submit that the form in which the proposition is cast, and the particular method in which it is proposed to deal with it, are alike unsatisfactory.

The Governments of the world might be held responsible to Christ for the spiritual and temporal care of the

people entrusted to their charge, and yet their attempt to discharge that responsibility by the endowment of the Church might be a serious mistake. This particular mode of promoting the spiritual welfare of the people is not forced upon them, however responsible they may be, unless it can be shown that it is the best mode. They might, for instance, by a holy example, by just laws, by an uncorrupt and impartial administration, and by the protection they throw around Christian institutions and Christian enterprise, fully recognise their accountability to Christ for such an employment of the great power committed to them as may most conduce to the spiritual well-being of their subjects, and yet see abundant reason for concluding that, as they are not qualified to preach and administer the sacraments, for which duties Christ has made his own provision, so neither are they bound to supply the temporal wants of those who do preach and administer the sacraments, for which Christ by his Apostles has laid down his own law. No discussion of the proposition, as you have framed it, could bring out the essential difference between the positions held respectively by the Church-Defence Association and the Liberation Society. To do that the affirmative should have run thus—"Christ has devolved upon the Governments of the world the duty of endowing the Church, as an indispensable mode of their showing their care for the spiritual interests of the people committed to their charge."

But I submit further that the method in which you propose that the question shall be brought to the test is as unsatisfactory as the statement of the question itself is vague and illogical. A platform discussion, in the presence of an equal number of partisans of each side, is but a clumsy arrangement for eliciting truth. It tests, not the soundness of the arguments advanced or of the position maintained by either of the disputants, but it does bring into competition their personal qualifications—retentiveness of memory, presence of mind, skill in evading an inconvenient point, and, sometimes, power to mystify or browbeat an opponent. Its chief recommendation is that it creates excitement—it seldom or never helps the judgment to a calm decision.

When a considerably younger man than I am now, I thought it my duty to accept two or three similar challenges to that which you have forwarded to me from the Church-Defence Association at Newcastle, and I observed that, while on every occasion the friends of each of the disputants claimed an argumentative victory for their own representative, rhetorical smartness had a far greater effect upon both sides than calm and lucid statements of opinion, or weighty and discriminating arguments. I came to the conclusion from that limited experience that, in the interests of truth, platform discussions are not the best means to be employed, and are liable to great abuses. Where, as in this country and in these times, all parties can put forward the views they hold by means of public addresses, lectures, and the press, the proper ends of discussion are served without much danger of losing sight of the main question in subsidiary and merely personal differences.

Under the pressure of these convictions I decline the invitation you have done me the honour to transmit to me. And, perhaps, I may be allowed to add, on behalf of the Liberation Society as well as on my own, that it would neither serve our practical purpose, nor would it consist with our personal engagements, to prosecute our ends by expending our time and strength in controversial duels all over the country.

I am, Rev. Sir, your most obedient servant,
EDWARD MIALI.

The Firs, Upper Norwood, April 27, 1863.

. The Newcastle Conference appears to have made a profound impression on the minds of the Church and Tory party in the town. The *Newcastle Daily Journal*, the organ of the Conservatives, has devoted four editorials to the abuse of what it is pleased to call "Miallism" and the "Miallites." In these papers, the Liberation Society is called a "conspiracy against religion" framed for "diabolical purposes" and "diabolical objects," and composed of "little souls." The Conservative public is informed, in an editorial in the same journal, that "Mr. Miall's foul tongue is not half so foul as his loathsome pen," and that that "rampant and raving demagogue" must have been "confined in a strait waistcoat" for his language at Newcastle to have been so mild. Mr. Miall's address is, at the same time, described as "egotistical," "peevish," "re-criminative," "testy," and "contemptible," and, on the whole, as "inflated fudge." In another editorial it is remarked that "We are not aware that there has been any abuse of Mr. Miall in Newcastle!" Four editorials, two sub-editorials, and several letters, are devoted to an expansion of this style of comment on the proceedings of the Conference.

CHURCH-RATE RECORD.

BATHWICK.—Mr. Goadridge, of Bathwick-hill, was summoned a few days ago before the Bath magistrates for non-payment of 13s. 9d., being his proportion of a Church-rate signed in April last. There was a large attendance of ratepayers, who evinced great interest in the case. Mr. Williams appeared for the churchwardens, and Mr. Bennett, of London, for the defendants. It was elicited that there were in the estimate items for the salary of vestry-clerk, for the clock, and for a pew at Laura Chapel, used by the churchwardens when they were there to receive the sacramental alms. Mr. Bennett urged that all these items were illegal, and, therefore, that the rate could not be enforced. Another objection was that the poll upon the organist's salary not having been demanded immediately after the amendment was carried, it could not be legally granted after other business had been transacted in the interim, and that as the estimate upon which the rate was based contained an item of 40% for organist's salary, which the vestry had refused to vote, the rate was excessive

and therefore bad. The mayor announced the unanimous opinion of the magistrates to be that as the objections appeared to be *bona fide*, their jurisdiction was ousted, and the summons must be dismissed. The decision also ruled another summons.

CHEDDAR.—In this town Mr. William Clark has been summoned for the non-payment of 13s. 7d., due on a Church-rate. In 1861 a rate of 3d. in the pound was made, but only a portion of the sum required was collected. In 1862 a rate of 9d. in the pound was made, the larger portion of which was collected. Some persons, however, objected to pay the demand, and distraints were accordingly enforced. Mr. Clark was summoned before the bench at Axbridge, when he proved to the magistrates that the rate was illegal, which induced them to dismiss the case. The present rate was sought to be established on the ruins of two former rates. Mr. Greta appeared for the churchwardens, and Mr. Bennett, of Serjeants'-inn, London, for Mr. Clark. Mr. Greta said that, on looking over the case, he found that an unfortunate mistake was made on last Sunday week when the notice was put upon the church doors for appointing the new churchwardens. The meeting was called on the Wednesday, and the Act of Parliament said there must be three days' notice placed on the church doors, and he understood that those days must be three clear days, and the new churchwardens would not be elected till Friday. Mr. Bennett said that he would be very glad to avail himself of the objection that there were no churchwardens, but it was not the case that there were none, for until the new churchwardens were appointed the old ones invariably acted. There must be some other reason for wishing to put off the case. A long discussion ensued between the learned gentlemen, in the course of which Mr. Bennett denied that he had anything to do with the Liberation Society. Mr. Greta asked that the hearing might be adjourned. Mr. Bennett insisted that the summons should be dismissed with costs. Mr. Greta observed that the churchwardens had not a farthing in hand. Mr. Bennett remarked that such a plea could not avail. The magistrates dismissed the summons, allowing 1l. for costs. Their decision was received with some applause amongst the occupants of the court. The above case is the more important as in several parishes in the vicinity of Cheddar the inhabitants had determined to await the result of the magisterial investigation, in order, if it should be favourable to the opponents of Church-rates, that they might make a stand against them in their own districts.

ROCHFORD, ESSEX.—A vestry-meeting has been held in this town, and a threepenny rate proposed. The Rev. T. Hayward moved an amendment in favour of the voluntary principle. The rate was lost by a large majority, but on a poll there appeared—for the rate, 62 persons, with 89 votes; against, 80 persons, with 85 votes. The rate was therefore gained by four votes, although a majority of the ratepayers were opposed to it. The anti-rate party, now that they know their strength, have no doubt of winning with votes as well as voters at the next contest.

ST. PETER'S, COLCHESTER.—At the Easter vestry for this parish the rate asked for was tenpence in the pound. The majority of the meeting, believing the amount required (135l.) would be more willingly furnished upon the voluntary principle, resolved, upon the motion of Mr. Barber, to request the churchwardens to apply to the parishioners for subscriptions to meet the expenses of the year, and the meeting adjourned for six weeks to enable the churchwardens to carry out that request (the Rev. T. W. Davids offering to help in canvassing the parish). The churchwardens, on finding themselves in a minority, by the advice of the vicar (an Evangelical), declared that they would not carry out the wishes of the majority.

LANCASTER.—A case of disputed Church-rate has been before the magistrates of this town, Mr. Preston, a Friend, objecting to pay because an item of 2l. for blowing the organ was, in reality, a superannuation allowance. The bench decided that, the objection being *bona fide*, the case must be dismissed.

BICKETER.—At the petty sessions in this town, a few days ago, Messrs. George Stevens, clothier, George Roberts, ironfounder, and George Horwood, all of Bicketer-market-end, were summoned for a Church-rate. Mr. J. Bennett, solicitor, Serjeants'-inn, London, appeared on behalf of the defendants, and objected to the rate on three grounds—first, illegal items charged in the rate; second, the inequality of rating; and third, irregularity in the polling. The magistrates considered that the minute-book was sufficient proof to show that the original proposition or any other proposition had not been put to the meeting, and that it was not necessary to examine any witnesses, and ordered the room to be cleared to consider whether the original proposition ought to have been put to the meeting or not. After about half an hour's consideration the public were re-admitted, when the Rev. R. Pretyman said, "The bench consider there is informality in the rate. They consider it invalid, and therefore the cases are dismissed." There were a large number of persons present to hear the cases, which lasted about two hours.

LANGHARNE, SOUTH WALES.—A vestry was lately held in this place, the vicar occupying the chair, when a rate of five pence in the pound was proposed; but an amendment, to the effect that the impost be done away with, and voluntary contributions to meet outstanding debts and current expenses be substituted, having been moved and seconded

and carried by a majority in the vestry, the pro-rate party insisted on having a general poll of the whole parish and township. A sharp and determined contest was brought to a close on Saturday, the result being a majority of forty-three against the rate.

THE ANNUAL SOIREE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY—we beg to remind our readers—will be held next Tuesday evening (instead of Wednesday, as heretofore), at Freemasons' Hall. Mr. Barnes, the member for Bolton, has engaged to preside, and, besides the gentlemen whose names are announced in our advertising columns, other well-known friends of the society may be expected to take part in the proceedings. This meeting, occurring, as it does, in the midst of the ecclesiastical debates and divisions of the Session, will be felt by the society's friends to be a very seasonable one, and it cannot fail, we should think, to be very interesting also. We hope that the Executive Committee will be cheered by the attendance of a unusually good muster of their friends, that it may be seen that their energy and devotedness increase just in proportion as their exertions call forth the strenuous resistance of those who uphold the cause of Church Establishments.

ROMISH CHAPEL AT A CEMETERY.—The Birmingham Town Council has, after a long and warm debate voted a sum of 800l. for building a Roman Catholic chapel in the borough cemetery by a majority of 24 against 21.

THE DEPUTATION TO THE SCOTTISH CONGREGATIONAL UNION MEETINGS at Dundee, this year, will be the Rev. Joshua Harrison, and S. Morley, Esq., the treasurer of the Home Missionary Society. Mr. Morley will be accompanied by the Rev. J. H. Wilson, secretary of the above society.

CRICKET FOR MINISTERS.—We are informed that a cricket club has been formed amongst some members of the Nonconforming ministry, residing in a pleasant suburb of the metropolis. They will be very glad to be joined by any of their brethren residing in town, who may feel the necessity of occasional outdoor recreation, and healthy exercise.—*Patriot*.

THE MARCH OF "LIBERATION."—The *Church Institution Circular* states that, under the advice of Mr. Toulmin Smith, some person is about to contest the right of the clergy to a fee for the solemnization of matrimony.—*Record*. [The *Record* is unfortunate in its heading—Mr. Toulmin Smith being an avowed opponent of the Liberation Society.]

WORKHOUSE CHAPLAINS.—In the Arches Court on Monday the case of Molyneux v. Bagshaw came on for hearing. This case raised an important question. The Rev. Mr. Molyneux is rector of St. Peter's, Sudbury, Suffolk, and the Rev. Mr. Bagshaw is the poor-law chaplain of the union. He had officiated in the chapel of the workhouse, and the rector had put his veto on his performing Divine service within his cure without his consent. Dr. Lushington reserved his judgement.

REFORM AT OXFORD.—The public, says the *Spectator*, should pay attention to events at Oxford. A measure for improving the system of examination, which gained the approval of Congregation, has been rejected by Convocation. In other words, the reforms of the men who know what Oxford needs, and who do the work of the University, have been delayed by the country clergy, who have never educated themselves, and who neither know nor care how to educate others. We need hardly say that Dr. Pusey and Archdeacon Denison were amongst the majority on this occasion.

THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—The case of the Bishop of Exeter against the Rev. Mr. Shutte was decided by Vice-Chancellor Page Wood on Thursday. Mr. Shutte has undertaken to write the Bishop's life against—or at least without—his consent, and the Bishop applied to the Court for an injunction to restrain his unwelcome biographer from making use of any letters of his which may have fallen into Mr. Shutte's hands. Mr. Shutte put in an affidavit that he never meant to publish any letter without the Bishop's permission; and acting on this affidavit, the Vice-Chancellor dismissed the injunction, though without costs. The publisher, however, who had been included in the application for an injunction, obtained his costs.

THE COLENSO CONTROVERSY.—The Archbishop of York has written a letter to the clergy of the rural deanery of Sheffield respecting Bishop Colenso. He says he has not forbidden the bishop to minister in his archdiocese, because he is confident none of his clergy would ever think of allowing him to occupy their pulpits. He adds that the best way to deal with his lordship of Natal is to leave him to his own conscience. The Bishop of Exeter has addressed a letter to the Rev. Prebendary Freeman, Coadjutor Archdeacon of Exeter, in reply to an address from the clergy of the archdeaconry on the subject of the Colenso controversy. He expresses his intention to abstain from making any declaration which shall prejudice matters which must be the subject of judicial consideration before the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"DISSENTERS JOINING THE CHURCH."—Respecting the paragraph that appeared under this head in a recent number, a correspondent at Llechryd, in Cardiganshire, writes to inform us that "Mr. Thomas, of Llandysil, has written to the leading Welsh journal, denying the truth of the statement that delivers him over to the Establishment. Mr. John, of Gower, is the only ordained minister of the three. The two Cardigan

shire folks mentioned never were ordained, nor had they the remotest chance of ever becoming ministers." Our correspondent is quite amused at the idea of the seceders from the Calvinistic Methodists having been ministers of "high reputation," they having "always been considered as persons not likely to attain any honourable position in our Connexion." "Nonconformists in England," concludes our correspondent, "need not harbour any fear that Nonconformity will suffer at the hands of any of their Welsh brethren of 'high reputation,' for we can assure them that the sons of old Cambria have too deeply imbibed the very 'dissidence of Dissent,' and consider their Nonconformity too sacred as a part of their religion, to abandon its functions to become State officers."

THE LORDS AND THE QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.—The question might very well be argued on general grounds, and we might contest the abstract justice or the practical utility of such declarations as these. But it is sufficient to show, as we think has been fully shown by experience, that the Church neither requires such aid, nor could be helped by it if she were in any danger. This great institution, extending all over the land, and striking its roots deep into English society, can never be really injured from without, and least of all by those unimportant persons who are affected by the law as it stands. All the coarse material supports in the way of oaths and declarations and exclusions which our forefathers devised are, in the minds of reflecting men, rather burdens than defences. The House of Lords has been true to its less liberal traditions in rejecting the bill, and it may receive the faint congratulations which always await its less creditable displays. But in this case the matter is so practically unimportant that even bigotry will almost forget to be jubilant.—*Times*.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S BENEFICES BILL.—A bill has been introduced into the House of Peers by Lord Westbury, which we (*Aberdeen Free Press*) beg to present to our readers, divested of the cerecloth of Parliamentary phraseology:—

SOULS FOR SALE.

By virtue of an act of the Imperial Legislature, the Lord Chancellor of England begs leave to inform the public in general, and the landed proprietors in particular, that in his capacity of trustee to the people of England, he holds possession of seven hundred advowsons—that is, the power of choosing and placing seven hundred men to minister in holy things, in seven hundred congregations of English people; but on account of a press of business he is unable to give full attention to this department, and now proposes to dispose of 320 of these advowsons, either by public roup or private bargain. The incomes secured by law to these congregations now to be disposed of, range from 60*l.* to 200*l.* per annum. They are situated in different parts of the country, and will be sold in lots to suit intending purchasers. And in order to give an equal chance to all parties of her Majesty's subjects, whether High Church, Low Church, Broad Church, Zulu Church, Jew Church, or Infidel Church, no individual or society will be allowed to hold more than four congregations.

This fine property is parted with for no fault, only that as the livings average but 157*l.* per annum, they are too small to present to any of his friends, and he has no immediate use for them. Leaving besides 380 in reserve, of from 300*l.* to 2,000*l.* of annual value, which he will retain in his own hands, being more suitable for his purpose. The terms of sale will be found very favourable. One half of the purchase-price may remain in the purchaser's hands for some time, and for the other half his Lordship will make such arrangements as must be highly satisfactory to the buyer; in short, the investment will be found perfectly safe and highly lucrative. Indeed, an opportunity of securing such desirable property seldom occurs, and early application will be necessary to prevent disappointment.

P.S.—The people of England, to whom this property really belongs, are not expected to interfere in the bargain, as they have been so long accustomed to be bought and sold that they rather like it than otherwise.

SEIZING GOODS TO BUILD A MANSE.—The Presbytery of Forfar having resolved to force and make an example of the refractory feuars who refused to pay the tax imposed on them for building the parish manse, obtained a warrant from the sheriff for the pointing and sale of their goods. The victims selected have been Dr. Webster and Mr. James Alexander, dairyman. The goods of which the worthy Doctor is to be despoiled consist of—"One mahogany folding table, with glazed cover; six mahogany stuff-bottomed chairs; and an eight-day clock, with mahogany case." Mr. Alexander's pointed effects consist of—"One black quoy, in calf; and two kitchen chairs." The same being advertised for public roup on the 24th, a meeting was called by a bill headed—"The Law raising the Wind for the Auld Kirk," and denouncing the tax as unscriptural, unjust, and oppressive. The meeting was held in the North Free Church, on Wednesday evening. The Rev. John Thomson (Free Church), occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by the Revs. J. Stirling, A. McLean (Free Church), Dr. Webster, Mr. Wilkie, and other gentlemen. A very strong feeling was manifested against the exaction referred to, and proposals made that an organisation should be formed through the length and breadth of our land, for the purpose of putting a stop to these unseemly and obnoxious proceedings of the Established Church; "and," said Dr. Webster, "not only of putting a stop to these proceedings, but, if need be, to separate the Church entirely from having any connection with the Court of Session and the State." One of the resolutions carried by acclamation was as follows:—

That it is cowardly in the Presbytery of Forfar to distraint the goods of a poor, but honest and industrious, Dissenter, while wealthy members of their own Church are still in arrears, able, and, it is believed, ready, to resist the demand for payment. That in any case such unjust demands and oppressive proceedings are calculated to encourage State-Churchmen to maintain a demeanour haughtier than ever towards Dissenters;

to alienate the attachments of the latter, and to begot and foster in their bosoms sentiments of disaffection to the Civil Courts, proceedings in which are so expensive, and the result so uncertain, that prudent men are often deterred from appealing to them.

Among other speakers at the meeting was a Roman Catholic.

Religious Intelligence.

DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL.—The Rev. J. H. Hinton has resigned the pastorate of the church at Devonshire-square, London.—*Freeman*.

SURREY MISSION SOCIETY.—The sixty-sixth annual meeting of this society was held at Brixton, April 16. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached in the morning at Union Chapel a very practical and useful sermon to a large and interested congregation. A large number of ministers and friends assembled for dinner and tea in the school-room connected with Salem Chapel. In the evening a public meeting was held in Salem Chapel; W. Edwards, Esq., in the chair. The report, which was read by the Rev. R. Ashton, was of a very encouraging kind. Three earnest and devoted evangelists have been located in the distant parts of the county during the past year, and the committee hope to be able to employ several others as soon as their wealthy friends shall supply the required funds. Resolutions bearing upon the present and future prospects of the mission were moved and seconded by the Rev. J. Pillans and G. Reeve, of Camberwell, W. Anderson, of Tooting, A. E. Lord, of Herham, W. Barker, of Blackfriars, and J. M. Soule, of Battersea. It appeared from the report that Mr. Soule had been compelled to retire from the secretariat after twenty-three years of devoted and gratuitous labour. A resolution of sympathy and gratitude was affectionately presented to Mr. Soule, to which he feelingly responded, and expressed his unabated attachment to the society. The proceedings of the day were highly encouraging. The collections amounted to 44*l.*

KIMBOLTON.—Mr. E. W. Pegler, of King-Stanley, Gloucestershire, formerly of Bristol College, having accepted an invitation to take the pastoral office over the church at Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire, commenced his duties there on the 19th instant.

YORK, LENDAL CHAPEL.—We understand that the Rev. A. B. Attenborough has resigned the pastorate of this place of worship. The church by a large majority refused to accept the resignation, but nevertheless the rev. gentleman has felt it his duty to adhere to his original resolution. Mr. Attenborough has been nearly three years connected with the chapel, from which, we are assured, he now retires with the best wishes of his former hearers.—*York Herald*.

NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL, NEWTON ABBOT.—This chapel is nearly completed. It is expected that it will be opened somewhere near the end of June. The total cost is estimated at 1,300*l.* of which sum 850*l.* remains to be obtained. It is earnestly desired that it may be opened free of debt, and in order that this may be, a member of the church has kindly promised 350*l.* on condition that the remainder of the required amount be subscribed by the time the chapel is ready for opening. But as the members of the church are for the most part poor, they are unable to fulfil this condition without appealing to their Christian brethren.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday the Norwood Independent Chapel, one of the many which have been built or are in course of erection, in connexion with the Bicentenary of 1662, was formally opened for public worship. The chapel is erected on an excellent freehold site in West Derby-road, Liverpool, one of the main approaches to Liverpool. The cost of the land, which contains 2,435 square yards, was 1,500*l.* The style of the edifice is decorated Gothic. The chapel, when the galleries have been completed, will contain sittings for between 850 and 900 persons. The cost of erecting the chapel, with its adjoining vestries and lecture-room (but exclusive of the schools, which the committee do not intend to erect at present, and besides the land), is 4,600*l.*

BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The annual assembly of this Union was held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 14th and 15th instant, at Zion Chapel, Bristol. On Tuesday evening the annual sermon was preached by the Rev. John Granville, of Wotton-under-Edge, from Matthew ix. 36. On Tuesday morning the ministers and delegates assembled for business in larger numbers than on any similar occasion before. The Rev. George Wood, B.A., presided. The report of the operations of the Union for the year ending the 31st March was presented, and showed that the work of evangelisation was being carried on with diligence and success in the various stations under the care of the Executive Committee. Brief reference was also made to the Bicentenary Commemoration of the last year and its results. The Union having decided at that meeting that an institution should be established in Bristol, for the education of home missionaries and village pastors on the plan described in a paper submitted by the Rev. E. J. Hartland, and since published, the executive first set to work to obtain the necessary funds. Early in the present year they found themselves in the possession of promises of support to the extent of 616*l.* for the first year, 591*l.* per annum for the three following years, and 100*l.* for the fifth year. Under these circumstances they felt justified in proceeding further, and in arranging for the opening of this important institution in September next. A sub-committee was appointed, consisting of the Revs. Dr. Brown and D. Thomas, and Messrs. Cosham, C. Godwin, and Somerville, who were to make any inquiries they might consider neces-

sary, and select a gentleman they deemed eligible for the post of tutor. They unanimously selected the Rev. E. J. Hartland. With similar unanimity the executive endorsed their selection, and cordially invited Mr. Hartland to undertake this work. On the presentation of this report, and after it had been adopted, so far as the ordinary operations of the Union were concerned, a resolution was proposed by the Rev. H. I. Roper, and seconded by the Rev. R. C. Pritchett, specially approving of the measures of the Executive Committee in connexion with the new institution, and confirming them. The resolution was carried unanimously. The ordinary business of the annual assembly was then proceeded with. Reports were read from the churches aided by the Union, and from the mission stations under its care. Grants were also made to them for the year ending the 31st of March, 1864, to the amount of 655*l.* In the evening, a public meeting was held. W. Somerville, Esq., took the chair. The report presented to the annual assembly in the morning was read for the information of the meeting, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Joseph Williams, of Rodborough Mr. James Stratford, of St. Briavel's (one of the evangelists employed by the Union), Mr. Watson, of Dundee, Mr. Handel Cosham, and the Rev. E. H. Jones, secretary of the Somerset Association.

BROMLEY ST. LEONARD, MIDDLESEX.—The Rev. J. Sella Martin, a fugitive slave, and late pastor of a flourishing Baptist church in Boston, U.S., has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the church at present meeting for worship in the Lecture-hall, Bromley, near Bow. The circumstances connected with the formation of this church are of an interesting character. About eighteen months ago Mr. Harper Twelvrees originated a series of Sunday-evening services for the working classes residing in the vicinity of the Bromley Lecture-hall, which have been conducted by ministers and gentlemen of various denominations, and by the students from the Baptist College, Regent's-park. Numbers unaccustomed to attend a place of worship have frequented the hall, where a large congregation has been gathered. A morning service has since become necessary, and in accordance with the wishes of many to whom God's Word has been blessed, a Christian church, on union and non-sectarian principles, has been recently formed. Mr. Martin will commence his stated ministry on the first Sunday in May; and it is believed that he will be the only coloured minister holding the pastoral office in the United Kingdom.

RAWDON COLLEGE.—The Rev. James Acworth, LL.D., who has for more than a quarter of a century presided over this educational institution with remarkable ability and energy, retires from his honourable post at the close of the present session, in accordance with an intimation given a year ago. He has served his generation faithfully, and is entitled to retire from the active duties of life that he may enjoy repose for what remains of his earthly career; but his resignation will be a source of regret to a numerous circle of friends who know his value and properly estimate the important services he has rendered to the cause of education and religion during his long and active official life. The vacancy occasioned by Dr. Acworth's retirement has been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. S. J. Green, B.A. for some years one of the professors of this College. This appointment will be highly satisfactory to the religious public, who hold Mr. Green in the highest esteem, not only for his literary and scholarly attainments, but for his broad and catholic spirit, and for the cheerful facility with which he has lent his versatile talents to every good and holy cause which has required his aid. It is also a matter of congratulation to the whole community that we shall retain Mr. Green amongst us; for we understand that he has recently declined the offer to become the Head Master and Chaplain of Mill-hill Grammar School, a post more lucrative and not less honourable than the one on which he will enter at the close of the present term.—*Bradford Observer*.

DERBY.—On Tuesday week the foundation-stone of the new school-rooms in connection with the Congregational chapel, Derby, was laid by James Allport, Esq. The schools have been designed to harmonise as nearly as possible with the present chapel. There will be two school-rooms, each fifty feet by thirty feet, capable of accommodating five hundred children. The cost of the erection will be upwards of 1,000*l.*, towards which 650*l.* has been promised. It is intended to hold a bazaar in the ensuing months, with the proceeds of which, and the opening services, it is hoped the rooms may be opened free from debt. Messrs. Wilson and Thompson, of Derby, are the architects by whom the works are being carried out. The Rev. H. Tarrant having engaged in prayer, a bottle, containing a parchment with the names of the minister, deacons, the layer of the stone, the architects, the building committee, &c., and a few coins of the present reign, was deposited under the stone. The stone having been properly laid and adjusted, the spectators, in consequence of the rain, adjourned to the chapel, when addresses were delivered by Mr. Allport and the Rev. H. Ollard. At five o'clock about 270 friends sat down to tea in the school-rooms underneath the chapel, which were very tastefully decorated for the occasion with flags, garlands, and Chinese lanterns. After tea, interesting addresses, suitable to the occasion, were delivered by the Rev. H. Ollard, who occupied the chair; Revs. J. Baxendale, W. Jones, J. Walker, H. Tarrant, J. Merwood, and others, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to James Allport, Esq., for his services. It was stated by the chairman that the rooms were to be opened during the first week in October.

Religious Anniversaries.

THE BAPTIST UNION.

On Friday morning last, the annual session of the Baptist Union was held at the Mission House, Moorgate-street. The Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., took the chair soon after ten o'clock, and there was a very good attendance of ministers and delegates. The proceedings commenced with a devotional service.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and said he had resolved to say a few words to the brethren on the subject of denominational union and the present aspect of affairs in relation to it. It had often been regretted that the Baptist denomination in England should be so much divided. Occasionally attempts had been made to bring about greater union, and hopes had been entertained that the results of the Bicentenary movement would tell in that direction. The desirableness of denominational union could not admit of a doubt, the unloveliness and feebleness resulting from division being too manifest to be denied. In point of fact, however, denominational union among Baptists had been slow in manifestation and difficult of cultivation, and if any progress had been made towards effecting it much still remained to be done. What was the diagnosis of this apparently morbid apathy, and what the prospect of cure? The Baptist denomination, while in name one, was in fact many. In the first place it was divided by a difference of doctrinal sentiment, some churches holding the Calvinistic system, some the Arminian. These constituted the General and Particular Baptists. The latter, which was the larger body of the two, was itself divided into High Calvinists and Moderate Calvinists, and Strict and Open Communionists, besides minor differences which were not material to the object of that address. Among these six parties there were several obstacles to union. There was a legal distinction in the trusts-deeds between General and Particular Baptists, and there was also a further legal distinction between the Old and New Connexions of the General Baptists. Another difficulty was that the feeling of the respective sections of the body was not favourable to union. It was true that the constitution of the Union permitted the combination of all—an opportunity of which the General Baptists had availed themselves by giving in their adhesion as a body. Two years ago they expressed a desire for further union; but the Particular Baptists did not respond, as no practical methods were suggested for carrying it out. It must also be remembered that the Particular Baptists were not an organised body, and had no mode of expressing their united sentiments, and, moreover, that fully a third of their churches were not in any association at all. It was suggested that the Baptist Union should have spoken, but the Union, if in any sense a representative of the body as a whole (which might be doubted), was in no sense a representative of the Particular Baptist body. It might, however, be regretted that the General Baptist Association was so quickly discouraged in its attempt, since well-advised suggestions of a practical kind would have been sure to have gained consideration. It must be admitted with sorrow that the Particular Baptists were far from being united among themselves. As an illustration of the difficulties of union, he might quote the answer which he had received from a church in Wiltshire to which he had sent the usual application for a triennial return. It was in these terms:—"I don't want to have anything to do with Mr. Hinton or his Union." (Laughter.) It did not go to the bottom of the matter to say that there should be more love. That was true, but not the whole truth. Duty must have precedence of love. Even "the wisdom which was from above was first pure, then peaceable." While High-Calvinists attached so much importance to their hyperism, and strict-unionists to their exclusiveness as to think it their duty to alienate themselves from their brethren, he could not plead with men for love's sake to correct their tempers, to relinquish their prejudices, to change their usages. He could not ask any man even for love's sake to desert his convictions. His view of denominational union was that though it might to some extent be advanced by well-directed efforts, it was not possible in the present state of conviction and feeling to bring about any very decided change for the better. A first object would be to get Particular Baptists to be united among themselves, but for one portion of them to cultivate further union with the General Baptists would assuredly be to widen the distance which already separated them from their nearer brethren. Were they then to be content with their present divided condition? Far from it. They must apply the remedy to the source of disease. They must become wiser and better Christians, must better understand the will of the Lord, and then they would come together without solicitation. In the meantime let men unite who could and do what lay in their power to promote the glory of God. It might be supposed that the existence of the Baptist Union must have been the result of some strenuous movement in the body. Such, however, was not the fact. From the year 1812 a social gathering in connection with the denominational anniversaries was held under the style of "The Annual Meeting of the Ministers and Members of the Baptist Denomination in London." The earliest separate account of the proceedings of that assembly was dated 1832. The title of "Baptist Union," first appeared in 1833. In 1834 a Treasurer, Secretaries, and Committee were chosen. The Rev. Joseph Belcher, of Chelsea, who

was the presiding genius of the Union at that time, seemed to be desirous of identifying it with the Ministers' Meeting of 1812—a theory, however, which would scarcely bear examination. In the same year (1834) there appeared a "Constitution," gravely called "a Revised Constitution," but by a sheer misnomer, as no constitution of any kind existed previously. He (the chairman) was present at the committee meeting at which the constitution was discussed. In the account of the same year there appeared a list of churches belonging to the Union, the test of membership being a contribution to the expenses of Dr. Cox and Dr. Hoby in their voyage to the United States, which was, very much to the surprise of some parties, assumed to constitute a link "connecting them with the body." Happily the Union had existed till now, but its existence had been a continual struggle, and must be expected to be so still. He (the chairman) had watched with lively interest the correspondence in the *Freeman* and *Baptist Messenger* on the subject, and the present occasion seemed to him to be one on which he could speak his mind fully and freely. His knowledge of the denomination was not a growth either of a few years or of a narrow experience, and the opinions he had been led to form he freely expressed in what was probably the last public occasion on which he should have either the responsible honour of giving it counsel or the exquisite pleasure of receiving a token of its love. (Cheers.)

The hymn was then sung, commencing—

It is sweet to mingle where
Christians meet in social prayer;

and the Revs. G. H. Davies and Philip Griffiths were appointed recording secretaries.

Mr. E. B. UNDERHILL moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Hinton for his valuable address, together with a request that it should be placed at the disposal of the committee of the Union for publication. If he felt any regret in reference to any portion of it, it was with regard to the closing sentences. He should deeply regret if Mr. Hinton ever absented himself from the assemblies of the Union while he lived, and he sincerely hoped that he might be spared many years to be, as he now was, an ornament and an honour to the denomination to which he belonged. It was assumed by some persons that those who united in such assemblies must surrender a portion of what they deemed to be the truth. He believed that no union could be established on the basis of a compromise of conviction or principle. The basis of Christian union was undoubtedly love, and he confessed that he thought but little of the love which could not suffer the expression of different principles to those held by the parties themselves. He believed that the day would come when there would be hearty union together with the utmost freedom of expression. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. ANGUS, in seconding the resolution, said he heartily concurred in all the expressions of good will and affection which had been uttered by the previous speaker with regard to Mr. Hinton. No man deserved better at the hands of the denomination than their revered chairman. It hardly became him to quarrel with an address for which he was now moving a vote of thanks, but he might perhaps be allowed to say that he had greater hopes of union among the different sections of the body than the chairman appeared to entertain. The earnest co-operation of Christians had a tendency to modify errors which existed on both sides. Whatever views they might entertain with respect to Calvinism or strict communion, right-hearted men would find no great difficulty in co-operating with one another.

The Rev. Mr. GOADBY and Mr. STOKES, of Manchester, having addressed the meeting, the motion was agreed to, and cordially acknowledged by the chairman.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD read the annual report, of which the principal features were as follows:—

The committee report that some important and encouraging alterations have occurred in the constituency of the Union. There is a net increase of twenty-five churches. The total number of churches reported by the associations of England and Wales is 1,245, and the clear increase of members during the year 4,964, being 646 in advance of the previous year. The average increase per church is 4½. The Rev. J. H. Hinton having withdrawn from the active secretaryship, the committee appointed the Rev. J. H. Millard, B.A., his successor, at a salary of 50*l.* per annum. Mr. Hinton will still retain the position of honorary secretary; and the committee, feeling that the occasion was one which demanded some special mark of respect and affection for their venerated brethren, Mr. Hinton and Dr. Steane, who for so many years have stood in the forefront of the denomination, and have so ably vindicated its interests both at home and abroad, have resolved to request them to sit for their portraits, the same to become the property of the Baptist Union and to be deposited in the Library. The sum of 1,900*l.* had been received from various parts of the country in aid of the Baptist members in the suffering districts in Lancashire. Various other matters were referred to in the report, but as they were made the subject of resolutions, they need not be mentioned here. In conclusion, the committee urged upon the assembly that there was ample room for improvement and progress in the affairs of the Union, and cordially commended its interests to the attention of all the churches.

The Rev. J. DREW, of Newbury, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was impossible to be present on such occasions without feeling intensely anxious lest anything should be said to obstruct the object they all had in view, namely the increase of union in the Baptist denomination. It appeared to him that in addition to the spirit of love, they required the spirit of justice. What right had he to quarrel with his brother for differing with him in opinion? Every one should have full liberty to

think and act for himself. The union of Christians was based not on compromise but freedom. (Cheers.) He was full of hope that the Union would become more influential and efficient under the increasing spread of Christian principle.

Mr. W. HEATON seconded the motion.

The Rev. N. HAYCROFT wished it to be distinctly understood that 1,900*l.* was not the whole of the money contributed by the Baptist denomination towards the relief of the Lancashire distress.

The Rev. J. MARTIN, of Nottingham, was anxious that the impression should be removed from the minds of ministers that there was any difficulty in becoming members of the association. They had simply to notify their wishes to the secretary. He also suggested that the assembly should hold its session during the missionary week, if possible, to enable more ministers to attend.

The Rev. Dr. EVANS called attention to the fact that there was a balance of 48*l.* against the society, and expressed a hope not only that many ministers would become members and contribute a small donation annually, but that the friends present would come forward and assist in wiping off the debt.

After a few remarks from the Rev. J. Webb, of Ipswich, and the Rev. W. Barker, of London,

The Rev. W. ROBINSON, of Cambridge, said that he had a very strong fellow feeling with the Chairman on the subject of union among the Baptists. The best denominational means they had of promoting union was the Missionary Society, but he doubted the power of that assembly to do much in that direction. Where there were more points of difference among Christians than of agreement there would be a tendency to disunion, and he could not help knowing, that though he agreed with all Baptists on the question of baptism, he was separated from many by various doctrinal differences, whereas there were many other Christians with whom he differed solely on the question of baptism. He feared that the suggestions contained in the report, though beyond all question interesting, were not likely to produce any very greatly increased zeal in favour of the Union throughout the country. So far as his observations went the interest felt in it by the churches was at the extreme minimum point.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL asked whose fault it was if the interest of the churches in the Union was at zero? (Hear, hear.) Certainly the individuals who composed it were to a great extent responsible for the amount of interest felt in it in their respective spheres.

The SECRETARY said that it was the intention of the committee to persevere in their plan of keeping the claims of the assembly before the churches, with a view to secure increased co-operation.

The Rev. B. C. ETHERIDGE said he thought that many churches were content with subscribing through the associations.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD said that very few of the associations contributed, and but a fraction of the Baptist churches.

Some discussion then took place with reference to the "Baptist Handbook," one or two members apparently thinking that a better arrangement might be made for the publication of the proceedings of the assembly. No motion was made on the subject, however, and

The report was subsequently adopted *nem. dis.*

SECRETARYSHIP OF THE UNION.

The Rev. Dr. EVANS moved the following resolution:—

That the Session learn with sorrow that their honoured and beloved brother the Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., has found it needful to resign the active duties of the secretaryship, which he has so laboriously and zealously discharged for more than twenty-five years. They cannot but reflect with admiration on the work he has been enabled to do both for the denomination and for the Church of Christ in general, and record their unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God for the continuance of such energy and strength as justify them in still expecting important services at his hands. They cordially thank him for his earnest and self-denying labours on behalf of this Union, and beg that he will continue as long as possible to hold the office of secretary, though relieved of its fatigues.

He said that no one could more thoroughly agree with the resolution than he did. He had long borne witness to the faithfulness with which their revered chairman had discharged the duties of secretary to the Union, and he sincerely hoped that though he might not be able any longer to take an active part in managing their affairs, he would be long spared to aid them with his counsel and cheer them by his example.

The Rev. J. J. BROWN, of Birmingham, seconded the resolution, which was passed amidst general cheering and cordially acknowledged by Mr. Hinton.

STATE OF THE DENOMINATION.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL moved the following resolution on denominational statistics:—

That the Session acknowledge with devout gratitude to Almighty God the evidence afforded by the association returns that the Holy Spirit has not been withdrawn from the Baptist churches of this country; but seeing that the total clear increase averages but 4½ per church, they ardently desire a more copious outpouring of Divine grace, and affectionately invite each other, and their brethren throughout the land, to more zealous and self-denying effort, and more fervent and abundant prayer for a greater amount of prosperity in the coming year.

They ought to do more than simply give expression to an opinion on this subject, otherwise the passing of such a resolution would do more harm than good. If in addition to passing it they went forth earnestly determining to act upon it, they might reasonably hope that God would in great mercy answer their expectations, and that they should next year have to report still more decided proofs of his mercy.

The Rev. S. GREEN, in seconding the motion, said that every one present must feel the deep importance of the subject, and he hoped that each would join in prayer that a richer blessing might descend on the churches.

shire folks mentioned never were ordained, nor had they the remotest chance of ever becoming ministers." Our correspondent is quite amused at the idea of the seceders from the Calvinistic Methodists having been ministers of "high reputation," they having "always been considered as persons not likely to attain any honourable position in our Connexion." "Nonconformists in England," concludes our correspondent, "need not harbour any fear that Nonconformity will suffer at the hands of any of their Welsh brethren of 'high reputation,' for we can assure them that the sons of old Cambria have too deeply imbibed the very 'dissidence of Dissent,' and consider their Nonconformity too sacred as a part of their religion, to abandon its functions to become State officers."

THE LORDS AND THE QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.—The question might very well be argued on general grounds, and we might contest the abstract justice or the practical utility of such declarations as these. But it is sufficient to show, as we think has been fully shown by experience, that the Church neither requires such aid, nor could be helped by it if she were in any danger. This great institution, extending all over the land, and striking its roots deep into English society, can never be really injured from without, and least of all by those unimportant persons who are affected by the law as it stands. All the coarse material supports in the way of oaths and declarations and exclusions which our forefathers devised are, in the minds of reflecting men, rather burdens than defences. The House of Lords has been true to its less liberal traditions in rejecting the bill, and it may receive the faint congratulations which always await its less creditable displays. But in this case the matter is so practically unimportant that even bigotry will almost forget to be jubilant.—*Times*.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR'S BENEFICES BILL.—A bill has been introduced into the House of Peers by Lord Westbury, which we (*Aberdeen Free Press*) beg to present to our readers, divested of the cerecloth of Parliamentary phraseology:—

SOULS FOR SALE.

By virtue of an act of the Imperial Legislature, the Lord Chancellor of England begs leave to inform the public in general, and the landed proprietors in particular, that in his capacity of trustee to the people of England, he holds possession of seven hundred advowsons—that is, the power of choosing and placing seven hundred men to minister in holy things, in seven hundred congregations of English people; but on account of a press of business he is unable to give full attention to this department, and now proposes to dispose of 320 of these advowsons, either by public roup or private bargain. The incomes secured by law to these congregations now to be disposed of, range from 60*l.* to 200*l.* per annum. They are situated in different parts of the country, and will be sold in lots to suit intending purchasers. And in order to give an equal chance to all parties of her Majesty's subjects, whether High Church, Low Church, Broad Church, Zulu Church, Jew Church, or Infidel Church, no individual or society will be allowed to hold more than four congregations.

This fine property is parted with for no fault, only that as the livings average but 157*l.* per annum, they are too small to present to any of his friends, and he has no immediate use for them. Leaving besides 380 in reserve, of from 300*l.* to 2,000*l.* of annual value, which he will retain in his own hands, being more suitable for his purpose. The terms of sale will be found very favourable. One half of the purchase-price may remain in the purchaser's hands for some time, and for the other half his Lordship will make such arrangements as must be highly satisfactory to the buyer; in short, the investment will be found perfectly safe and highly lucrative. Indeed, an opportunity of securing such desirable property seldom occurs, and early application will be necessary to prevent disappointment.

P.S.—The people of England, to whom this property really belongs, are not expected to interfere in the bargain, as they have been so long accustomed to be bought and sold that they rather like it than otherwise.

SEIZING GOODS TO BUILD A MANSE.—The Presbytery of Forfar having resolved to force and make an example of the refractory feuars who refused to pay the tax imposed on them for building the parish manse, obtained a warrant from the sheriff for the pointing and sale of their goods. The victims selected have been Dr. Webster and Mr. James Alexander, dairyman. The goods of which the worthy Doctor is to be despoiled consist of—"One mahogany folding table, with glazed cover; six mahogany stuff-bottomed chairs; and an eight-day clock, with mahogany case." Mr. Alexander's pointed effects consist of—"One black quye, in calf; and two kitchen chairs." The same being advertised for public roup on the 24th, a meeting was called by a bill headed—"The Law raising the Wind for the Auld Kirk," and denouncing the tax as unscriptural, unjust, and oppressive. The meeting was held in the North Free Church, on Wednesday evening. The Rev. John Thomson (Free Church), occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by the Revs. J. Stirling, A. McLean (Free Church), Dr. Webster, Mr. Wilkie, and other gentlemen. A very strong feeling was manifested against the exaction referred to, and proposals made that an organisation should be formed through the length and breadth of our land, for the purpose of putting a stop to these unseemly and obnoxious proceedings of the Established Church; "and," said Dr. Webster, "not only of putting a stop to these proceedings, but, if need be, to separate the Church entirely from having any connection with the Court of Session and the State." One of the resolutions carried by acclamation was as follows:—

That it is cowardly in the Presbytery of Forfar to distrain the goods of a poor, but honest and industrious, Dissenter, while wealthy members of their own Church are still in arrears, able, and, it is believed, ready, to resist the demand for payment. That in any case such unjust demands and oppressive proceedings are calculated to encourage State-Churchmen to maintain a demeanour haughtier than ever towards Dissenters;

to alienate the attachments of the latter, and to beget and foster in their bosoms sentiments of disaffection to the Civil Courts, proceedings in which are so expensive, and the result so uncertain, that prudent men are often deterred from appealing to them.

Among other speakers at the meeting was a Roman Catholic.

Religious Intelligence.

DEVONSHIRE-SQUARE CHAPEL.—The Rev. J. H. Hinton has resigned the pastorate of the church at Devonshire-square, London.—*Freeman*.

SURREY MISSION SOCIETY.—The sixty-sixth annual meeting of this society was held at Brixton, April 16. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon preached in the morning at Union Chapel a very practical and useful sermon to a large and interested congregation. A large number of ministers and friends assembled for dinner and tea in the school-room connected with Salem Chapel. In the evening a public meeting was held in Salem Chapel; W. Edwards, Esq., in the chair. The report, which was read by the Rev. R. Ashton, was of a very encouraging kind. Three earnest and devoted evangelists have been located in the distant parts of the county during the past year, and the committee hope to be able to employ several others as soon as their wealthy friends shall supply the required funds. Resolutions bearing upon the present and future prospects of the mission were moved and seconded by the Rev. J. Pillans and G. Reeve, of Camberwell, W. Anderson, of Tooting, A. E. Lord, of Hersham, W. Barker, of Blackfriars, and J. M. Soule, of Battersea. It appeared from the report that Mr. Soule had been compelled to retire from the secretariat after twenty-three years of devoted and gratuitous labour. A resolution of sympathy and gratitude was affectionately presented to Mr. Soule, to which he feelingly responded, and expressed his unabated attachment to the society. The proceedings of the day were highly encouraging. The collections amounted to 44*l.*

KIMBOLTON.—Mr. E. W. Pegler, of King-Stanley, Gloucestershire, formerly of Bristol College, having accepted an invitation to take the pastoral office over the church at Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire, commenced his duties there on the 19th instant.

YORK, LENDAL CHAPEL.—We understand that the Rev. A. B. Attenborough has resigned the pastorate of this place of worship. The church by a large majority refused to accept the resignation, but nevertheless the rev. gentleman has felt it his duty to adhere to his original resolution. Mr. Attenborough has been nearly three years connected with the chapel, from which, we are assured, he now retires with the best wishes of his former hearers.—*York Herald*.

NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL, NEWTON ABBOT.—This chapel is nearly completed. It is expected that it will be opened somewhere near the end of June. The total cost is estimated at 1,300*l.* of which sum 850*l.* remains to be obtained. It is earnestly desired that it may be opened free of debt, and in order that this may be, a member of the church has kindly promised 350*l.* on condition that the remainder of the required amount be subscribed by the time the chapel is ready for opening. But as the members of the church are for the most part poor, they are unable to fulfil this condition without appealing to their Christian brethren.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday the Norwood Independent Chapel, one of the many which have been built or are in course of erection, in connexion with the Bicentenary of 1662, was formally opened for public worship. The chapel is erected on an excellent freehold site in West Derby-road, Liverpool, one of the main approaches to Liverpool. The cost of the land, which contains 2,435 square yards, was 1,500*l.* The style of the edifice is decorated Gothic. The chapel, when the galleries have been completed, will contain sittings for between 850 and 900 persons. The cost of erecting the chapel, with its adjoining vestries and lecture-room (but exclusive of the schools, which the committee do not intend to erect at present, and besides the land), is 4,600*l.*

BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.—The annual assembly of this Union was held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 14th and 15th instant, at Zion Chapel, Bristol. On Tuesday evening the annual sermon was preached by the Rev. John Granville, of Wotton-under-Edge, from Matthew ix. 36. On Tuesday morning the ministers and delegates assembled for business in larger numbers than on any similar occasion before. The Rev. George Wood, B.A., presided. The report of the operations of the Union for the year ending the 31st March was presented, and showed that the work of evangelisation was being carried on with diligence and success in the various stations under the care of the Executive Committee. Brief reference was also made to the Bicentenary Commemoration of the last year and its results. The Union having decided at that meeting that an institution should be established in Bristol, for the education of home missionaries and village pastors on the plan described in a paper submitted by the Rev. E. J. Hartland, and since published, the executive first set to work to obtain the necessary funds. Early in the present year they found themselves in the possession of promises of support to the extent of 616*l.* for the first year, 591*l.* per annum for the three following years, and 100*l.* for the fifth year. Under these circumstances they felt justified in proceeding further, and in arranging for the opening of this important institution in September next. A sub-committee was appointed, consisting of the Revs. Dr. Brown and D. Thomas, and Messrs. Cosham, C. Godwin, and Somerville, who were to make any inquiries they might consider neces-

sary, and select a gentleman they deemed eligible for the post of tutor. They unanimously selected the Rev. E. J. Hartland. With similar unanimity the executive endorsed their selection, and cordially invited Mr. Hartland to undertake this work. On the presentation of this report, and after it had been adopted, so far as the ordinary operations of the Union were concerned, a resolution was proposed by the Rev. H. I. Roper, and seconded by the Rev. R. C. Pritchett, specially approving of the measures of the Executive Committee in connexion with the new institution, and confirming them. The resolution was carried unanimously. The ordinary business of the annual assembly was then proceeded with. Reports were read from the churches aided by the Union, and from the mission stations under its care. Grants were also made to them for the year ending the 31st of March, 1864, to the amount of 655*l.* In the evening, a public meeting was held. W. Somerville, Esq., took the chair. The report presented to the annual assembly in the morning was read for the information of the meeting, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Joseph Williams, of Rodborough Mr. James Stratford, of St. Briavel's (one of the evangelists employed by the Union), Mr. Watson, of Dundee, Mr. Handel Cosham, and the Rev. E. H. Jones, secretary of the Somerset Association.

BROMLEY ST. LEONARD, MIDDLESEX.—The Rev. J. Sella Martin, a fugitive slave, and late pastor of a flourishing Baptist church in Boston, U.S., has accepted a cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the church at present meeting for worship in the Lecture-hall, Bromley, near Bow. The circumstances connected with the formation of this church are of an interesting character. About eighteen months ago Mr. Harper Twelvrees originated a series of Sunday-evening services for the working classes residing in the vicinity of the Bromley Lecture-hall, which have been conducted by ministers and gentlemen of various denominations, and by the students from the Baptist College, Regent's-park. Numbers unaccustomed to attend a place of worship have frequented the hall, where a large congregation has been gathered. A morning service has since become necessary, and in accordance with the wishes of many to whom God's Word has been blessed, a Christian church, on union and non-sectarian principles, has been recently formed. Mr. Martin will commence his stated ministry on the first Sunday in May; and it is believed that he will be the only coloured minister holding the pastoral office in the United Kingdom.

RAWDON COLLEGE.—The Rev. James Acworth, LL.D., who has for more than a quarter of a century presided over this educational institution with remarkable ability and energy, retires from his honourable post at the close of the present session, in accordance with an intimation given a year ago. He has served his generation faithfully, and is entitled to retire from the active duties of life that he may enjoy repose for what remains of his earthly career; but his resignation will be a source of regret to a numerous circle of friends who know his value and properly estimate the important services he has rendered to the cause of education and religion during his long and active official life. The vacancy occasioned by Dr. Acworth's retirement has been filled up by the appointment of the Rev. S. J. Green, B.A. for some years one of the professors of this College. This appointment will be highly satisfactory to the religious public, who hold Mr. Green in the highest esteem, not only for his literary and scholarly attainments, but for his broad and catholic spirit, and for the cheerful facility with which he has lent his versatile talents to every good and holy cause which has required his aid. It is also a matter of congratulation to the whole community that we shall retain Mr. Green amongst us; for we understand that he has recently declined the offer to become the Head Master and Chaplain of Mill-hill Grammar School, a post more lucrative and not less honourable than the one on which he will enter at the close of the present term.—*Bradford Observer*.

DERBY.—On Tuesday week the foundation-stone of the new school-rooms in connection with the Congregational chapel, Derby, was laid by James Allport, Esq. The schools have been designed to harmonise as nearly as possible with the present chapel. There will be two school-rooms, each fifty feet by thirty feet, capable of accommodating five hundred children. The cost of the erection will be upwards of 1,000*l.*, towards which 650*l.* has been promised. It is intended to hold a bazaar in the ensuing months, with the proceeds of which, and the opening services, it is hoped the rooms may be opened free from debt. Messrs. Wilson and Thompson, of Derby, are the architects by whom the works are being carried out. The Rev. H. Tarrant having engaged in prayer, a bottle, containing a parchment with the names of the minister, deacons, the layer of the stone, the architects, the building committee, &c., and a few coins of the present reign, was deposited under the stone. The stone having been properly laid and adjusted, the spectators, in consequence of the rain, adjourned to the chapel, when addresses were delivered by Mr. Allport and the Rev. H. Ollard. At five o'clock about 270 friends sat down to tea in the school-rooms underneath the chapel, which were very tastefully decorated for the occasion with flags, garlands, and Chinese lanterns. After tea, interesting addresses, suitable to the occasion, were delivered by the Rev. H. Ollard, who occupied the chair; Revs. J. Baxendale, W. Jones, J. Walker, H. Tarrant, J. Merwood, and others, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to James Allport, Esq., for his services. It was stated by the chairman that the rooms were to be opened during the first week in October.

Religious Anniversaries.

THE BAPTIST UNION.

On Friday morning last, the annual session of the Baptist Union was held at the Mission House, Moorgate-street. The Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., took the chair soon after ten o'clock, and there was a very good attendance of ministers and delegates. The proceedings commenced with a devotional service.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

The CHAIRMAN then rose and said he had resolved to say a few words to the brethren on the subject of denominational union and the present aspect of affairs in relation to it. It had often been regretted that the Baptist denomination in England should be so much divided. Occasionally attempts had been made to bring about greater union, and hopes had been entertained that the results of the Bicentenary movement would tell in that direction. The desirableness of denominational union could not admit of a doubt, the unloveliness and feebleness resulting from division being too manifest to be denied. In point of fact, however, denominational union among Baptists had been slow in manifestation and difficult of cultivation, and if any progress had been made towards effecting it much still remained to be done. What was the diagnosis of this apparently morbid apathy, and what the prospect of cure? The Baptist denomination, while in name one, was in fact many. In the first place it was divided by a difference of doctrinal sentiment, some churches holding the Calvinistic system, some the Arminian. These constituted the General and Particular Baptists. The latter, which was the larger body of the two, was itself divided into High Calvinists and Moderate Calvinists, and Strict and Open Communionists, besides minor differences which were not material to the object of that address. Among these six parties there were several obstacles to union. There was a legal distinction in the trusts-deeds between General and Particular Baptists, and there was also a further legal distinction between the Old and New Connexions of the General Baptists. Another difficulty was that the feeling of the respective sections of the body was not favourable to union. It was true that the constitution of the Union permitted the combination of all—an opportunity of which the General Baptists had availed themselves by giving in their adhesion as a body. Two years ago they expressed a desire for further union; but the Particular Baptists did not respond, as no practical methods were suggested for carrying it out. It must also be remembered that the Particular Baptists were not an organised body, and had no mode of expressing their united sentiments, and, moreover, that fully a third of their churches were not in any association at all. It was suggested that the Baptist Union should have spoken, but the Union, if in any sense a representative of the body as a whole (which might be doubted), was in no sense a representative of the Particular Baptist body. It might, however, be regretted that the General Baptist Association was so quickly discouraged in its attempt, since well-advised suggestions of a practical kind would have been sure to have gained consideration. It must be admitted with sorrow that the Particular Baptists were far from being united among themselves. As an illustration of the difficulties of union, he might quote the answer which he had received from a church in Wiltshire to which he had sent the usual application for a triennial return. It was in these terms:—"I don't want to have anything to do with Mr. Hinton or his Union." (Laughter.) It did not go to the bottom of the matter to say that there should be more love. That was true, but not the whole truth. Duty must have precedence of love. Even "the wisdom which was from above was first pure, then peaceable." While High-Calvinists attached so much importance to their hyperism, and strict-unionists to their exclusiveness as to think it their duty to alienate themselves from their brethren, he could not plead with men for love's sake to correct their tempers, to relinquish their prejudices, to change their usages. He could not ask any man even for love's sake to desert his convictions. His view of denominational union was that though it might to some extent be advanced by well-directed efforts, it was not possible in the present state of conviction and feeling to bring about any very decided change for the better. A first object would be to get Particular Baptists to be united among themselves, but for one portion of them to cultivate further union with the General Baptists would assuredly be to widen the distance which already separated them from their nearer brethren. Were they then to be content with their present divided condition? Far from it. They must apply the remedy to the source of disease. They must become wiser and better Christians, must better understand the will of the Lord, and then they would come together without solicitation. In the meantime let men unite who could and do what lay in their power to promote the glory of God. It might be supposed that the existence of the Baptist Union must have been the result of some strenuous movement in the body. Such, however, was not the fact. From the year 1812 a social gathering in connection with the denominational anniversaries was held under the style of "The Annual Meeting of the Ministers and Members of the Baptist Denomination in London." The earliest separate account of the proceedings of that assembly was dated 1832. The title of "Baptist Union," first appeared in 1833. In 1834 a Treasurer, Secretaries, and Committee were chosen. The Rev. Joseph Belcher, of Chelsea, who

was the presiding genius of the Union at that time, seemed to be desirous of identifying it with the Ministers' Meeting of 1812—a theory, however, which would scarcely bear examination. In the same year (1834) there appeared a "Constitution," gravely called "a Revised Constitution," but by a sheer misnomer, as no constitution of any kind existed previously. He (the chairman) was present at the committee meeting at which the constitution was discussed. In the account of the same year there appeared a list of churches belonging to the Union, the test of membership being a contribution to the expenses of Dr. Cox and Dr. Hoby in their voyage to the United States, which was, very much to the surprise of some parties, assumed to constitute a link "connecting them with the body." Happily the Union had existed till now, but its existence had been a continual struggle, and must be expected to be so still. He (the chairman) had watched with lively interest the correspondence in the *Freeman* and *Baptist Messenger* on the subject, and the present occasion seemed to him to be one on which he could speak his mind fully and freely. His knowledge of the denomination was not a growth either of a few years or of a narrow experience, and the opinions he had been led to form he freely expressed in what was probably the last public occasion on which he should have either the responsible honour of giving it counsel or the exquisite pleasure of receiving a token of its love. (Cheers.)

The hymn was then sung, commencing—

It is sweet to mingle where
Christians meet in social prayer;

and the Revs. G. H. Davies and Philip Griffiths were appointed recording secretaries.

Mr. E. B. UNDERHILL moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Hinton for his valuable address, together with a request that it should be placed at the disposal of the committee of the Union for publication. If he felt any regret in reference to any portion of it, it was with regard to the closing sentences. He should deeply regret if Mr. Hinton ever absented himself from the assemblies of the Union while he lived, and he sincerely hoped that he might be spared many years to be, as he now was, an ornament and an honour to the denomination to which he belonged. It was assumed by some persons that those who united in such assemblies must surrender a portion of what they deemed to be the truth. He believed that no union could be established on the basis of a compromise of conviction or principle. The basis of Christian union was undoubtedly love, and he confessed that he thought but little of the love which could not suffer the expression of different principles to those held by the parties themselves. He believed that the day would come when there would be hearty union together with the utmost freedom of expression. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. ANGUS, in seconding the resolution, said he heartily concurred in all the expressions of good will and affection which had been uttered by the previous speaker with regard to Mr. Hinton. No man deserved better at the hands of the denomination than their revered chairman. It hardly became him to quarrel with an address for which he was now moving a vote of thanks, but he might perhaps be allowed to say that he had greater hopes of union among the different sections of the body than the chairman appeared to entertain. The earnest co-operation of Christians had a tendency to modify errors which existed on both sides. Whatever views they might entertain with respect to Calvinism or strict communion, right-hearted men would find no great difficulty in co-operating with one another.

The Rev. Mr. GOADBY and Mr. STOKES, of Manchester, having addressed the meeting, the motion was agreed to, and cordially acknowledged by the chairman.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD read the annual report, of which the principal features were as follows:—

The committee report that some important and encouraging alterations have occurred in the constituency of the Union. There is a net increase of twenty-five churches. The total number of churches reported by the associations of England and Wales is 1,245, and the clear increase of members during the year 4,964, being 646 in advance of the previous year. The average increase per church is 4½. The Rev. J. H. Hinton having withdrawn from the active secretaryship, the committee appointed the Rev. J. H. Millard, B.A., his successor, at a salary of 50*l.* per annum. Mr. Hinton will still retain the position of honorary secretary; and the committee, feeling that the occasion was one which demanded some special mark of respect and affection for their venerated brethren, Mr. Hinton and Dr. Steane, who for so many years have stood in the forefront of the denomination, and have so ably vindicated its interests both at home and abroad, have resolved to request them to sit for their portraits, the same to become the property of the Baptist Union and to be deposited in the Library. The sum of 1,900*l.* had been received from various parts of the country in aid of the Baptist members in the suffering districts in Lancashire. Various other matters were referred to in the report, but as they were made the subject of resolutions, they need not be mentioned here. In conclusion, the committee urged upon the assembly that there was ample room for improvement and progress in the affairs of the Union, and cordially commended its interests to the attention of all the churches.

The Rev. J. DREW, of Newbury, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was impossible to be present on such occasions without feeling intensely anxious lest anything should be said to obstruct the object they all had in view, namely the increase of union in the Baptist denomination. It appeared to him that in addition to the spirit of love, they required the spirit of justice. What right had he to quarrel with his brother for differing with him in opinion? Every one should have full liberty to

think and act for himself. The union of Christians was based not on compromise but freedom. (Cheers.) He was full of hope that the Union would become more influential and efficient under the increasing spread of Christian principle.

Mr. W. HEATON seconded the motion.

The Rev. N. HAYCROFT wished it to be distinctly understood that 1,900*l.* was not the whole of the money contributed by the Baptist denomination towards the relief of the Lancashire distress.

The Rev. J. MARTIN, of Nottingham, was anxious that the impression should be removed from the minds of ministers that there was any difficulty in becoming members of the association. They had simply to notify their wishes to the secretary. He also suggested that the assembly should hold its session during the missionary week, if possible, to enable more ministers to attend.

The Rev. Dr. EVANS called attention to the fact that there was a balance of 48*l.* against the society, and expressed a hope not only that many ministers would become members and contribute a small donation annually, but that the friends present would come forward and assist in wiping off the debt.

After a few remarks from the Rev. J. Webb, of Ipswich, and the Rev. W. Barker, of London,

The Rev. W. ROBINSON, of Cambridge, said that he had a very strong fellow feeling with the Chairman on the subject of union among the Baptists. The best denominational means they had of promoting union was the Missionary Society, but he doubted the power of that assembly to do much in that direction. Where there were more points of difference among Christians than of agreement there would be a tendency to disunion, and he could not help knowing, that though he agreed with all Baptists on the question of baptism, he was separated from many by various doctrinal differences, whereas there were many other Christians with whom he differed solely on the question of baptism. He feared that the suggestions contained in the report, though beyond all question interesting, were not likely to produce any very greatly increased zeal in favour of the Union throughout the country. So far as his observations went the interest felt in it by the churches was at the extreme minimum point.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL asked whose fault it was if the interest of the churches in the Union was at zero? (Hear, hear.) Certainly the individuals who composed it were to a great extent responsible for the amount of interest felt in it in their respective spheres.

The SECRETARY said that it was the intention of the committee to persevere in their plan of keeping the claims of the assembly before the churches, with a view to secure increased co-operation.

The Rev. B. C. ETHERIDGE said he thought that many churches were content with subscribing through the associations.

The Rev. J. H. MILLARD said that very few of the associations contributed, and but a fraction of the Baptist churches.

Some discussion then took place with reference to the "Baptist Handbook," one or two members apparently thinking that a better arrangement might be made for the publication of the proceedings of the assembly. No motion was made on the subject, however, and

The report was subsequently adopted *nem. dis.*

SECRETARYSHIP OF THE UNION.

The Rev. Dr. EVANS moved the following resolution:—

That the Session learn with sorrow that their honoured and beloved brother the Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., has found it needful to resign the active duties of the secretaryship, which he has so laboriously and zealously discharged for more than twenty-five years. They cannot but reflect with admiration on the work he has been enabled to do both for the denomination and for the Church of Christ in general, and record their unfeigned gratitude to Almighty God for the continuance of such energy and strength as justify them in still expecting important services at his hands. They cordially thank him for his earnest and self-denying labours on behalf of this Union, and beg that he will continue as long as possible to hold the office of secretary, though relieved of its fatigues.

He said that no one could more thoroughly agree with the resolution than he did. He had long borne witness to the faithfulness with which their revered chairman had discharged the duties of secretary to the Union, and he sincerely hoped that though he might not be able any longer to take an active part in managing their affairs, he would be long spared to aid them with his counsel and cheer them by his example.

The Rev. J. J. BROWN, of Birmingham, seconded the resolution, which was passed amidst general cheering and cordially acknowledged by Mr. Hinton.

STATE OF THE DENOMINATION.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL moved the following resolution on denominational statistics:—

That the Session acknowledge with devout gratitude to Almighty God the evidence afforded by the association returns that the Holy Spirit has not been withdrawn from the Baptist churches of this country; but seeing that the total clear increase averages but 4½ per church, they ardently desire a more copious outpouring of Divine grace, and affectionately invite each other, and their brethren throughout the land, to more zealous and self-denying effort, and more fervent and abundant prayer for a greater amount of prosperity in the coming year.

They ought to do more than simply give expression to an opinion on this subject, otherwise the passing of such a resolution would do more harm than good. If in addition to passing it they went forth earnestly determining to act upon it, they might reasonably hope that God would in great mercy answer their expectations, and that they should next year have to report still more decided proofs of his mercy.

The Rev. S. GREEN, in seconding the motion, said that every one present must feel the deep importance of the subject, and he hoped that each would join in prayer that a richer blessing might descend on the churches.

A short discussion took place as to whether the 4½ per cent. of increase represented the gross or net increase in the membership of the denomination.

The CHAIRMAN said it did represent the net increase, and was about an average rate of progress. The motion was agreed to.

LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.

The Rev. W. BARKER moved the following resolution:—

That this Session cordially approve of the steps taken by their committee in the cotton-manufacturing districts, and cannot but give devout thanks to Almighty God for that enlarged spirit of benevolence and prompt sympathy by which the dire necessities of our countrymen have been so effectually relieved, and for the heroic and Christian patience with which their sufferings have been endured.

The Rev. W. F. BURCHELL, of Blackpool, seconded the motion. If the brethren could be aware of half the distress which many of the pastors and members of the body had suffered, they would be prepared to give a continued and even an enlarged expression of their Christian sympathy. It would be difficult to find language to express the magnitude of the calamity, and he was sorry to say that at present there appeared to be little or no prospect of relief, so that he feared there would be a prolonged demand upon the generosity of the country at large, and of the members of the churches. Should that be the case he hoped that the claim would meet with a liberal response. (Hear, hear.)

After a short discussion on the precise wording of the resolution, the motion was agreed to, and the ministers and delegates adjourned for refreshment.

On reassembling, the chair was taken by the Rev. F. Trearail.

THE BAPTIST LIBRARY.

The Rev. J. STOCK moved the next resolution, as follows:—

That the Session recognise the importance of rendering the denominational Library serviceable to ministers and to the Baptist body in general, and more especially for making it a depository and complete collection of all documentary and historical works relating to the Baptist denomination. They offer their cordial thanks to the Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., and Miss Birt, for their important gifts, and would especially record their high sense of the munificence of their honoured brother, the Rev. Dr. Steane, in presenting his valuable library to the Union. They cannot but hope that, influenced by so noble an example, the churches will speedily enable the committee to throw open the stores of the Library, and they therefore earnestly invite benefactions both in money and in books.

It was to be regretted that some of the noblest men in the denomination had passed away without any effort being made to preserve a memorial of their labours. He hoped that a uniform edition of the works of Mr. Hinton would be published under his own superintendence. He also suggested that every Baptist minister who wrote a work should present the Library with a copy.

The Rev. S. GREEN, in seconding the motion, said that he had reason to believe that such a volume as that suggested by the last speaker was in contemplation.

The Rev. W. H. BONNER, the librarian, then gave a list of valuable works connected with the denomination which were not in the Library.

Several gentlemen present promised to forward copies of some of the works referred to, and various suggestions were made for improving the Library and making it more complete as a denominational repository.

The motion was then agreed to.

LIFE-ASSURANCE AND ANNUITIES.

The subject of ministerial providence was then introduced by the Secretary placing on the table certain papers which had been prepared on the subject under the instruction of the committee.

The Rev. S. GREEN, who with Mr. Bowser had taken a principal part in compiling those papers, said that it was proposed to establish a society for the purpose of securing a life-assurance of 200l. to each Baptist minister who contributed a certain proportion of the expense, together with an annuity of 30l. to brethren who might be by reason of age or sickness incapacitated from pursuing their calling. Mr. Green entered somewhat fully into an explanation of the details of this scheme, stating that the contribution which it was proposed the ministers should give for these benefits, was two guineas per annum at the age of twenty-five, and so on in an ascending ratio up to forty-five, and that the remainder of the premiums, varying from 5l. to 20l. per annum, should be supplied from the funds of the society.

Mr. BOWSER having added some explanations,

The Rev. Dr. ANGUS moved a resolution to the effect that the papers now submitted to the meeting should be printed with a view to their being discussed by the committee.

The Rev. R. MARTIN seconded the motion, which after some general discussion on the question of the superiority of local or general societies, was unanimously agreed to.

THE AUTUMNAL MEETING.

On the motion of the Rev. W. GOADBY, seconded by Mr. BILBOROUGH, of Leeds, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

That this Session fully recognise the desirableness of holding an autumnal meeting of the Union in some provincial town as soon as such a measure shall be found practicable, and leave it in the hands of the committee to make the needful arrangements if a suitable opportunity shall arise during the present year.

ACCREDITED BAPTIST MINISTERS.

The Rev. N. HAYCROFT moved the following resolution:—

That the attention of the committee be called to the list of Baptist ministers who are accredited members of the Union, and that they be requested to consider whether any alteration in the principles on which their names are inserted in the list, or removed from it, can be made with a view to the increased efficiency of the Union.

The question often arose who were and who were

not accredited Baptist ministers. Occasionally persons calling themselves such committed acts of gross impropriety, and brought the denomination into disrepute. A case of this kind had recently been reported in the public newspapers. It appeared to him desirable that the attention of the committee should be called to this state of things with a view to devising a remedy.

The Rev. S. GREEN questioned the propriety and expediency of the Union constituting itself into a court of inquiry into the character and standing of all the Baptist ministers in the kingdom.

The Rev. J. PIKE, while admitting the importance of the subject, said that the difficulty in the way of doing anything was the fact that the Baptists were not an organised body.

The Rev. W. BARKER said that in the list contained in the "Handbook" an asterisk was prefixed to the names of those ministers who were members of the Union.

Mr. W. HEATON said that the mere putting a minister's name into the "Handbook" list was no guarantee of his character; it was simply the statement of a fact that he was a Baptist minister. According to their principles every church had a right to select its own pastor, and was perfectly unfettered in its choice, and it would scarcely be consistent with the Union to interfere with that function. Of course it could say who should or should not be admitted as members of the Union, but they could not go further than that. He had no objection to have the subject referred to the committee.

After some further discussion, the motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Petitions to Parliament were then adopted in favour of Mr. Dillwyn's Endowed Schools Bill, for admitting Dissenters to the advantages of ancient endowed schools; and against the Lord Chancellor's Augmentation of Benefices Bill. A resolution was also passed in favour of the admission of Dissenters to bury in the parochial grave-yards.

CONCLUSION.

The committee for the ensuing year were then appointed, and after cordial votes of thanks had been passed to the officers of the Union, the committee of last year, and the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

CONVERSAZIONE AT REGENTS-PARK COLLEGE.

A meeting of peculiar interest was held at the Baptist College, Regent's-park, on Saturday evening. Its object was twofold:—to present portraits of a large size, executed in oil, of the Rev. J. H. Hinton, M.A., and the Rev. Edward Steane, D.D., on their retirement from the secretaryship of the Baptist Union; and to receive reports on the state of the Baptist churches in Great Britain. Several hundreds of ladies and gentlemen assembled, including a large number of ministers and deacons, both of the metropolitan and the provincial churches. After refreshments and walks in the beautiful grounds of the college, the company gathered in the spacious drawing-room, where the portraits were exhibited; Sir Morton Peto, M.P., presiding. The introductory devotions were conducted by the Rev. J. H. Millard, Rev. Mr. Edwards, and Mr. E. B. Underhill.

The CHAIRMAN dwelt in fervent language upon the valuable and extended services rendered not only to the Baptist body, but to the church at large, as well as to the cause of truth and of religious liberty, by Mr. Hinton and Dr. Steane, and in the name of the subscribers asked their acceptance of the admirable portraits which had been prepared by a skilful artist, and wished for them both the best and most abundant of blessings. Sir Morton also stated that it had been resolved to have engravings made from the paintings, which are themselves to be placed in the Library at the Mission House, Moorgate-street.

Mr. HINTON and Dr. STEANE severally acknowledged the kindness of their friends in words of deep gratitude, and in tones of almost overpowering emotion. They severally stated that, in accordance with the general wish, they should have much pleasure in handing over the portraits to the Baptist Union.

The Rev. Dr. ANGUS then read an elaborate paper of great value and interest on the progress made by the Baptist body in England and Wales during the last sixty years.

At the beginning of that period Carey was engaged upon the first Indian translation of the Scriptures, and now 30,000 copies were annually distributed by the Baptist missionaries alone; the Ganges was then "desecrated" by the baptism of the first convert, and now the mission churches comprised 2,000 members; or, including the Karens and Burmese, the converts are 20,000. The people of Jamaica, by tens of thousands, were slaves; they are now free, and the numerous churches there are self-supporting. The coast of Africa was then infested with slavers—now missionaries are settled there. The Niger has been opened to our commerce, and Ethiopia has begun to stretch out her hands to God. On the continent of Europe many and great changes for the better had been effected within the memory of not a few. There were no Baptist churches on the continent sixty years ago; but now, mainly through the blessing of God on the labours of one man, there were more than a thousand preaching-stations and upwards of 10,000 converts. At home there had been results hardly less startling. Sixty years ago there were only eighty Baptist churches in Wales, one church to 7,000 inhabitants, and comprising only 6,000 members. Now the single county of Monmouthshire contained as many churches as the whole of the Principality did at the former period; and in the thirteen counties of Wales there were nearly 600 churches, or one church to 2,000 inhabitants, with nearly 65,000 members; so that every twentieth Welshman was a member of a Baptist church; while the Bap-

tists could claim only every hundredth Englishman. Sixty years ago there were only 417 Baptist churches in England; there were now upwards of 1,700—an increase of fourfold. The population had more than doubled in the sixty years, but the Baptist churches had multiplied in the same time fourfold. At the beginning of the century there was one Baptist church to every 20,000 of the population; now there was one to every 11,000, exclusive of Wales. Reckoning the number of members, the progress would be found to have been still greater. In the last twenty years 500 new churches have sprung up—an average of twenty-five a year. Sixty years ago there were two Baptist institutions for training young men for the ministry, one at Bristol, and the other connected with the General Baptists, in London. They contained about twenty students, and the cost of their support was 1,200l. a-year. Now there were eight institutions with over 200 students, and the cost of support was upwards of 7,000 a-year. These institutions had for the last few years sent out forty-five students a-year, and the Tabernacle, with its present numbers and term of study, might be calculated to send out twenty-five more, or seventy students each year in all. The churches were 2,150, of which 150 belonged to the General Baptist body, leaving 2,000 connected more immediately with themselves. There were 1,900 pastors, or, deducting those without charges, 1,605; and 500 churches had no pastors. Allowing for deaths and retirements from failing health fifty students a-year, would meet the necessities of existing churches, even if all of them applied to the colleges for pastors. In fact, however, many very efficient pastors entered the ministry in other ways; so that of the young men now in training at least a fourth, or say twenty in each year, would have to break up new ground at home or abroad, or become the pastors of some of the 500 churches now destitute, and most of which were thought to be too poor to support a pastor of their own. The contributions to foreign missions had increased in the sixty years from the first 13l. 2s. 6d. to 22,000l., or upwards of twenty-fold, and 35,000l. had been contributed for the mission press. Nearly one million sterling had thus been spent in the foreign field; and the good that had been done none could tell or estimate. (Cheers.) Such then had been the progress of the body in the last sixty years. The facts produced in his own mind a blended feeling of thankfulness and of holy dissatisfaction. God had largely blessed their labours, but was there any reason apart from themselves why much greater things had not been done? In most districts of England there was still ample room for extension without coming into competition with any other Christian labourers, but only with ignorance, ungodliness, and sin. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. THOMAS, of Pontypool, next read a paper on the state of religion in Wales; and the company shortly afterwards dispersed.

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Monday evening, at the Metropolitan Tabernacle. There were probably about a thousand persons present. Mr. J. C. Marshman presided.

A hymn having been sung, the Rev. J. H. Hinton offered prayer.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought the Metropolitan Tabernacle the most appropriate place in London for the holding of a home-missionary meeting, seeing that it was in an especial manner a centre of home-missionary labour. The operations of this society would not be found to yield in importance to those of any other religious organisation; on the contrary, they were of paramount importance, and it was the manifest duty of Christian people to do their utmost for the diffusion of those Divine truths which had so greatly benefited both themselves and the nation at large. Unhappily there were still multitudes of people in this highly favoured land who remained ignorant of the Gospel of salvation, and whose only church was the alehouse, and who were essentially heathens. Before the Reformation the Roman Catholics had set up churches for the teaching of what they conceived to be Christianity in every nook and corner of the land where even three or four hundred inhabitants were located; and it might be questioned whether there now existed anything like the accommodation for public worship, in proportion to the population, that had been provided by the rulers of that corrupt Church. In the city of Norwich, for example, there existed before the Reformation forty churches for a population less than one-eighth of the present inhabitants. And in Wood-street, in this metropolis, there were actually three churches. These were but samples of the provision made in all parts in that olden time. Would it not then be disgraceful to us, as Protestants, not to greatly increase our means of instruction? It was obviously our duty to the fullest extent of our power to endeavour to evangelise the nation, not to seek to make converts to a system or a sect, but to make true Christians. (Cheers.)

The Rev. S. J. DAVIS, the Secretary, instead of reading the report, stated, very briefly, its substance. The number of central stations is 66; and of sub-stations 62. The number of additions by baptism, during the year, is 457—an average of rather more than six to each central church. There are 60 Sunday-schools, 607 teachers, and 4,584 scholars. The schools are uniformly described as in a healthy and encouraging condition. Several of the missionary brethren preached in the open air in the course of the summer to large numbers of hearers; and they express their earnest purpose to engage in the same kind of labour when the appropriate season shall return. The committee regret to say that they are in debt, partly from an over-liberal extension of their operations, partly because they have received no bequests in the course of the year, and partly through the influence of the Lancashire distress. The amount of deficiency—about 200l.—would have been much more serious but for the second liberal donation, just received, of a friend who is desirous of making some provision for a station, where for some

time he was a worshipper. The total income for the year was 1,700*l*.

The Rev. R. P. MACMASTER, of Bristol, moved the first resolution:—

That this meeting regards with fraternal sympathy the honoured brethren who are endeavouring to carry out the benevolent intentions of this society, both in the rural districts and in large towns; and desires to express its gratitude to Almighty God for the measure of success which has attended their labours during the past year.

The agents of such a society as this certainly deserved the sympathy of the churches. They were men for the times, who aimed at nothing less and nothing more than the conversion of their fellow-subjects; their aim salvation, their instrument truth, and their inspiration love. They often laboured under most depressing circumstances, especially in the agricultural districts, and needed all the sympathy that could be extended to them, in order to prevent them losing heart altogether. Honourable gentlemen, who refused to agree to the second reading of the Burials Bill, alleged that its operation would only extend to a few Dissenters, mostly Baptists, in the rural parishes; but surely that was an excellent argument in its favour. One of the most attractive and best features of a true Englishman's character consisted in his readiness to stand up for the weak and defenceless. The evil it was sought to remedy by the bill in question was comparatively unfelt in our large towns and cities, because Dissenters were strong enough to defend themselves, and to say, "Hands off, gentlemen," to any civil or ecclesiastical personages who might attempt to rob them of their rights. (Cheers.) But in the rural districts the priest and the squire reigned supreme; and those Dissenters who occupied a strong position in towns ought to let their influence be felt on behalf of their brethren living under less favoured circumstances. He would suggest, moreover, that personal sympathy of a most practical and useful kind might be displayed by those who could afford it, by subscribing to the "Bunyan Library" or the "Puritan Library" for one and another of these missionary brethren. For 1*l*. 10*s*. in the one case, and for 1*l*. in the other, a series of volumes might be placed in their hands that would greatly serve and delight them. (Cheers.)

The Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL, in seconding the resolution, delivered an elaborate and earnest speech, testifying his regard and love for the character and work of the mission, and pointing out the various principles and modes of action that could alone ensure the object they had in view by the agents and the supporters of a home or any other missionary society. He set out by paying a tribute of respect to Mr. Spurgeon, remarking that he honoured the man who, beginning with nothing but his own firm will, strong understanding, and high Christian character, could so act upon his fellow-men as in process of time to build such a massive fabric as that in which they were assembled; but who still only regarded that as a means to an end—the training of souls for that building of God not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. But those Christian labourers whose spheres were contracted deserved no less honour and respect—who under far more depressing circumstances displayed fidelity and perseverance. (Cheers.) Dwelling upon the intimate and necessary relations subsisting between home and foreign missions, he especially insisted upon this—that they must be alike sustained by the personal zeal and godliness of the membership of the churches. He exhorted his hearers to consecrate themselves anew to Christ and to his cause, and while with all fidelity and boldness they asserted their own convictions of truth, to make less of their differences than of their agreement with brethren of other Christian communities. If as a denomination they desired to be eminently useful, their churches must be characterised by a high degree of spiritual excellence, for without this nothing would avail for the purpose. But holy men, earnestly working in full dependence upon the Spirit of God, would never fail to receive a blessing from on high. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then adopted by the meeting, and the collection was made.

The Rev. Mr. DAVIS, the secretary, in the absence of the Rev. John Graham, who was detained at home by illness, moved the second resolution:—

That while this meeting is thankful for the Christian agency employed by this and kindred institutions on behalf of previously unreached portions of the population, and for the measure of success which has attended their operations, it cannot but deplore the ignorance and afflictive estrangement from God which still characterise vast numbers of the inhabitants of Great Britain; and would earnestly recommend the churches both to relieve the committee from its financial embarrassment, and supply it with the means of extending its operations for the evangelisation of the people.

Upon the geographical fact that England occupies an exactly central position in the land-section of the globe, he based a cogent argument in respect of our duty to endeavour to Christianise the world; but in order to do this it was essential that we should be ourselves a religious people.

The Rev. C. STOVEL seconded the resolution in an eloquent harangue, partly in defence of the sacred Scriptures against their modern traducers, the Puseyites, on the one hand, and the Rationalists on the other; and partly in expressing deep brotherly sympathy with the home-missionary agents, of whose many and severe trials he had had an extensive personal acquaintance, having visited no small number of them, and seen the labours and sacrifices they were called to undergo. The times, he contended, were such as imperatively demanded the earnest and extended prosecution of home-missionary work, and he therefore besought the churches to give a far more ample support to this society, and to make all its devoted agents feel that there were Christian brethren who thought of them, sympa-

thised with them, and were ready to afford all the help that was required. (Cheers.)

The resolution was adopted, and a vote of thanks to the chairman, followed by the Doxology, concluded the proceedings.

BIBLE TRANSLATION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Thursday evening last at Kingsgate-street Chapel, under the presidency of the Rev. Joshua Russell. There were several ministers present in addition to the speakers, both of the metropolis and from the provinces, and the general attendance was tolerably good. The Rev. W. K. Rycroft read the 19th Psalm, and offered prayer.

The Rev. W. W. EVANS, the secretary, read the annual report, the 23rd in the history of the society. The committee had pleasure in stating that the sum of 1,819*l*. 11*s*. 4*d*. had been realised, making a total from the commencement of 48,578*l*. 12*s*. 3*d*. The general income has been in excess of previous years; whilst the amount from legacies has been only 126*l*. 12*s*. 4*d*. The sum of 1,300*l*. has been voted in aid of the various versions of the Scriptures which have been printed at the Baptist Mission Press, Calcutta, and 50*l*. towards the Oriya New Testament, prepared by the Rev. John Buckley, of Cuttack. Although the British and Foreign Bible Society no longer assists in the printing of the translations of our brethren in their integrity, it adopts and prints them, removing the native word for baptism, and transferring the Greek word untranslated. The works carried through the press during the past year consisted of the following editions of portions of Scripture:—2,000 copies Hindustani, Luke and Acts, Arabic character. 3,000 copies Bengali, Psalms, with Proverbs. 2,000 copies Bengali, Psalms. 5,000 copies Bengali, Proverbs. 1,000 copies Sanscrit, Proverbs, Bengali character. An edition of Genesis, with the first half of Exodus, in Bengali, has just been completed within the last few days. The Rev. Charles Carter, of Ceylon, has been obliged, by failure of health, to return to England. Among the most valuable labours of Mr. Carter has been the preparation and issue of a revised edition of the New Testament in Singhalese. The translation has occupied more than three years in its preparation. In the language of a Singhalese Christian, "the translation is a clear one, and can be understood by all; it is one that gives great pleasure to the reader, and the profit of which is inexpressible." It is Mr. Carter's intention, while resident in this country, to proceed with a similar revision of the Old Testament. It may be satisfactory to add that Mr. Carter has prepared several books in Singhalese, which are very popular, and will be of great value in the acquisition of the language, and in the education of the youth of Ceylon. The Rev. John Buckley has been privileged to see the completion and issue of his revised edition of the New Testament in Oriya. The balance-sheet was also read by Mr. Evans in the absence of Dr. Steane, the treasurer of the society. It showed the receipts for the year to have been 1,819*l*. 11*s*. 4*d*., and the expenditure within a few pounds of the same amount.

The Rev. F. TRESTRAIL moved:—

That this meeting rejoices in every effort to translate the Holy Scriptures, and it especially approves of those which are aided by the Bible Translation Society; and that the report now read be printed and circulated.

After dwelling upon the vast benefits which England owes to the Bible, he said that this being so, it was alike our privilege and duty, even in the absence of a Divine command, to do our best to circulate the Bible. Some most interesting facts were related in his hearing a few days ago, illustrative of the value and power of the Bible, which occurred in the colliery districts beyond Birmingham. Some earnest Christian men had devoted themselves to the circulation of the Scriptures among the miners; and in companies of three they were in the habit, for this purpose, of visiting the public-houses when the men were assembled at them. On a recent occasion, while offering the Bible for sale in a public-house, one of the miners observed to a companion, "I say, Tom, this is a rum place for the Bible, isn't it?" "Well," rejoined the colporteur, "if it is not a place for the Bible, it is not a place for you." "I'm pretty much of that mind, too," said the man, and this led to some very useful and interesting conversation. Another miner purchased a large-print Bible for half-a-crown, and then asked the colporteur to read him "a bit of it," which he did, selecting passages from the Gospels. "Now," said the miner, "I'll give you another half-crown if you'll give us a bit of a prayer." The missionary replied that prayer was a most solemn matter, and about which they would hear again at the day of judgment. To this the miner assented, but still urged that "a bit of a prayer" should be offered; and the good man had the moral courage to go upon his knees in the public-house and pray for the rough characters about him, and that God would bless the Scripture which had been read in their hearing. In another public-house a miner bought a large-print Bible to read down in the mine; and the men agreed that it should be read out at dinner-time; and the rule was laid down and agreed to, that while the Bible was being read there should be no swearing. If any one did swear a fine was to be imposed, and a most characteristic fine it was, namely, that when the beer-can went round the swearer should not drink, but pass it on to the next man. To his mind these were facts full of intense significance and interest; and he might add, that in one district alone more than 90*l*. had been expended by the miners upon Bibles during the last twelve months. Was there any other book in existence to which such homage had ever been or would ever be paid? And surely it

was a testimony that could not be resisted to the holiness of the Bible. Great things had already been done by it. Seventy or eighty years ago—a period within the memory of men of this generation—there could not be found a copy of the Scriptures from one end of India to the other; but now there existed a sufficiency of New Testaments to give a copy to every man and woman able to read throughout that vast territory. And this grand and magnificent work had been mainly performed by Baptist translators, whose versions were in all respects unequalled. There were some who spoke of this society as sectarian in its character—an allegation which he entirely denied. It would never have existed if the Baptist Indian versions had not been cast off by the British and Foreign Bible Society, and its committee were solicitous only to aid the best and most faithful translations that were made. They did not fetter their translators in anything, only saying to them, Be faithful to God and your own consciences. Down at the bottom of the demand made by the Bible Society there lay the essential principle of Popery.

The Rev. CHARLES CARTER, of Ceylon, seconded the resolution. He believed that the committee did act upon the principle of helping to extend the best translations to be had, "but especially approves of those which are aided by the Bible Translation Society"—upon the principle that every word that can be translated shall be. It had been alleged that they violated their own rule by leaving untranslated such words as phylactery, synagogue, and talent; but the reply to that was, these words in themselves are not of much consequence, and no other words could be found by which the meaning could be fairly rendered. If, however, they involved questions of faith and practice—if it was recorded, for instance, that "he that believeth and weareth a phylactery shall be saved," then it would be a manifest duty to translate the word by the best possible equivalent, and to resort to a lengthy paraphrase if necessary. He was quite sure that the meeting approved of the versions of the Bible Translation Society; and the Christians of Ceylon approved of them too. Most present would perhaps be aware that the New Testament had been translated into Singhalese, and also the Book of Psalms. The advertised price of the book was 1*l*. 6*d*.; but after one of the services in Candy, when he announced that it was ready, he told the people that if they desired to possess it, he considered it would be their duty, if they could afford the money, to pay the full cost price, which was 4*s*.; and he was glad to say that not a single copy was sold at the advertised price of 1*l*. 6*d*.; the greater part realising 4*s*., and a few 2*s*. (Loud cheers.) This showed the willingness of the people to purchase the Scriptures. The resolution was adopted.

The Rev. THOMAS GOADBY, B.A., moved:—

That the following gentlemen be the officers and committee for the ensuing year; and in requesting them to continue their labours of love, this meeting would express its deep sense of the importance of fervent prayer to Almighty God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to render effectual the faithful efforts of his servants both at home and abroad.

As the representative on that occasion of the Orissa Mission of the General Baptist Missionary Society, he tendered hearty thanks to the Translation Society for the aid it had given towards the issue of a revised version of the New Testament Scriptures in the Oriya language. He fully agreed in the opinion that this society had nothing sectarian about it, and was glad, therefore, to be asked to speak a word on its behalf. The friends in Orissa were about to enter upon a revised translation of the Old Testament; and no fear was felt for the possible consequences, for the translators had already acquainted themselves with the Pentateuch and the Book of Joshua, not having been sent to Orissa because they were skilled in arithmetic, but because of their earnest desire to preach the Gospel to people perishing for lack of it. Many who had not embraced Christianity in India had been exceedingly interested and to some extent benefited by reading the Scriptures, and not a few had been converted by them, and one who first heard of the ten commandments and of the Gospel from the lips of a heathen priest—who assured his disciples that they would find in them the highest wisdom—had become an eloquent preacher of the truth. After dwelling upon the latter part of the resolution, and enforcing the duty of earnest prayer in connection with the work of Gospel diffusion, the speaker concluded by moving the resolution.

The collection was then made.

The Rev. J. MAKEPEACE seconded the resolution. Was it not, he asked, a remarkable and most noteworthy fact that in connection with this society there had been raised up, in uninterrupted order, a line of gifted men to transmute the lively oracles into some of the chief dialects of Hindostan? Was it not a marvel that, without a break in the continuity of the succession, they had had agents in the first rank as linguists, who could take up the work of their predecessors and then transmit it in a more perfected form to others who, in like manner, have been ready to receive it at their hands and carry it forward to greater completeness? There had always been by the side of the departing Elijah some well-equipped Elisha on whom the prophetic mantle could worthily fall. The endowments and occupations, too, of the men had been beautifully varied; so that what one translator has lacked his successor has supplied. Thus whilst Yates was ready to follow Carey, and Wenger to follow Yates, such were their different work as that Yates's version supplied what Carey's wanted in elegance, and Wenger's furnished what Yates's wanted in simplicity. The Bible Translation Society, the contempt of Pedobaptists, and the outcast of many Baptists too, is accomplishing much good. With the smallest

means and slenderest patronage, an insignificant and scorned institution, it yet is chosen to do some of the Gospel's mightiest works, whilst other societies, great in prestige and power, are more or less hindered. Through the labour of Wenger and his co-workers it has provided the *standard version* of the Bible in the Bengali language, a language spoken by about twenty-five millions of people. This version is one of peerless excellence, and is the one in which the teeming myriads of the vast principality of Bengal will read in their own tongue the wonderful works of God. It stands unrivalled for its idiomatic rendering, its intelligibility, and acceptableness with the churches at large. The Bible Society, with its princely revenue, has produced no version comparable to this, but have asked permission to adopt and adapt it for themselves. Passing from Bengal to the North-West Provinces, see what is being done in order to render the Scriptures into Hindi, a language spoken by say about thirty millions of people. There is Mr. Parsons, at Benares, engaged in the work by the help of this society. An agent of the London Missionary Society in that city testifies of our brother "that he is well known as one of the ripest and ablest Hindi scholars among the missionaries." And an agent of another society, who has been employed, too, by the British and Foreign Bible Society in translation work, testifies that that Mr. Parsons' version will be one of the best that has been given to the Indian churches. Exclusive of these there are eleven other Indian versions. But, besides, this society supports the General Baptists in their important Oriya translation, and Mr. Carter in his Singhalese. Let us give ourselves, as becometh us, to this work. We cannot all translate or publish the Word in the various dialects of the earth. But every Christian should be a missionary in heart. And if we were all thus to feel and thus to act, then verily might the poetic vision be speedily realised, when

"All nations should come,
The East, the West, the South, the snowy North
Rejoicing meet, and worship reverently
Before the Lord on Zion's holy hill,
And all the places round about be blest;
The desert blossom and the barren sing,
Justice, mercy, holiness, and love
Among the people walk, Messiah reign,
And earth keep jubilee a thousand years."

(Applause.)

The Rev. W. W. EVANS moved, and Mr. E. B. Underhill seconded, a vote of thanks to the chairman and to the minister and deacons for the use of the chapel, which was cordially adopted.

The benediction concluded the meeting.

Correspondence.

PLUMSTEAD PARISH CHURCHYARD-RATE LITIGATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The Record of the 15th inst. contains a review of a pamphlet, published at Oxford and London, by the Rev. William Acworth, vicar of Plumstead, Kent, on the subject of the protracted litigation between the Episcopalians and the Nonconformists, about providing a new burial-ground on the closing of the old churchyard, three years since, by the Secretary of State—the vicar being determined to enlarge the old churchyard at the expense of the parishioners generally, for the exclusive use of the Episcopalian ministers, in violation of the original resolution of the select vestry, whilst the Dissenters are anxious to obtain a free parish cemetery, open to the ministers of all denominations.

The distribution of this pamphlet is restricted in Plumstead to a few of the vicar's own party, the inhabitants being indebted to the columns of the Record for the information of its existence and contents; it appears to have been written for dissemination amongst strangers, and its object seems to be to enlist the sympathies and obtain the subscriptions of those at a distance, who are unacquainted with the facts of the case.

The rev. gentleman's opponents cannot as yet obtain a single copy, but, should one fall into their hands, the other side of the question will be presented. Meanwhile it may be remarked *en passant* that the quotations in the Record do not set forth the truth as the Liberal party understand the facts. *Par exemple*—the vicar bases his whole case upon his own assertion that the Liberation Society has rushed into the parish and set Episcopalian and Nonconformists by the ears, turning harmony into discord, and creating great confusion amongst us; whereas the fact is, this society has neither volunteered, or been appealed to, or given any assistance, pecuniary or otherwise, in the whole matter. This Liberation Society is a great bugbear to all these rev. gentlemen who wish to ride roughshod over their Dissenting brethren; nevertheless our vicar, by his own acts, has, unintentionally no doubt, done much to forward the views of that society, as the enrolment of many members in Plumstead since the commencement of these unhappy proceedings will testify; and for all this the society should send a donation as a token of their appreciation of the rev. gentleman's successful labours in their cause.

Had Mr. Acworth followed the enlightened and liberal example of the Rev. Mr. Brown, rector of Woolwich, and the clergy of the surrounding parishes of Greenwich and Charlton, and given Plumstead a parish cemetery in like manner, all litigation, confusion, and discord would have been avoided; and even if the vicar will now do this act of justice to the Nonconformists, who are the majority in the parish, harmony will again prevail in our parish.

As stated in the quotations, the Woolwich cemetery is situated in Plumstead parish; by the Board of Health's report last week there is again a large surplus fund in hand; the Dissenters of Plumstead may bury there, with their own rites, or, as the vicar rather sneeringly observes, "without any rites at all." This, to be sure, is a great boon, and one fully appreciated; but, nevertheless, the Dissenters have to pay double fees for burying in another parish cemetery, whilst at

the same time they are called on for rates to pay for an Episcopalian churchyard in their own parish, and also frightful law-costs in defending themselves from the illiberal and illegal acts of the Church of England party.

However, the question need not now be further entered on; as soon as a copy of the pamphlet be obtained the case will be presented to the public in its true light and in all its bearings.

I am, Sir, very sincerely yours,

A PROTESTANT DISSENTER.

Plumstead, S.E., April 21, 1863.

LANCASHIRE DISTRESS AND EMIGRATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The deep sympathy which has been universally manifested in the sufferings of the people of Lancashire, and the many efforts made by pecuniary contributions to mitigate their distress, deserve the most heartfelt gratitude from those who have participated in such kindness. The sufferings of the operatives, caused by want of employment, are still most acute, and none but those who have witnessed them can adequately realise their intensity. Many have had to break up their little households and take lodgings to save expense, and some have been compelled to part with valuable furniture to provide them with the necessary requirements of life. It is not possible to conjecture as to how many of these noble sufferers of poverty may be yielding to the influence of despondency; but certain it is, that there is no prospect at present that their circumstances will be materially improved in this country, and therefore many have decided to emigrate if facilities are afforded them. Now the subject of emigration is very important, and one which has occupied the attention of the public mind for some months past. Our colonies in Australia present a boundless field of labour at a remunerative value; and the question is, whether it is not better and more economical to transplant a portion of our distressed operatives upon the soil of some of our colonies, than to keep them at home in idleness, in the faint hope that shortly they will be able to resume their former occupations. With the view of assisting such operatives as are qualified and willing to labour in securing a living in our Australian colonies, the "Lancashire Emigration Society" has been formed, the object of which is to collect funds, and to administer them in securing free passages, and providing other necessary requirements.

On behalf of the "Lancashire Emigration Society," I earnestly appeal for contributions, which will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged. Let the cry for "help" which comes from the homes of the destitute and afflicted of these districts meet with an earnest response. Oh! how it would cheer many a depressed spirit and gladden many a sorrowing heart, if such assistance could be rendered in this hour of our country's special need.

Again, I appeal to your sympathies, may I rely upon your help? Delay not—the cause is urgent—the demand just.

I remain, yours faithfully,

GEORGE ASHWORTH.

19, South-street, Renshaw-street, Manchester,
April 23rd, 1863.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

FEDERAL DISASTER AT CHARLESTON.

The advices from New York are to April 14.

The Federal attack on Charleston has proved a more decided failure than was anticipated. Admiral Dupont's official report, which is in the hands of the Government, has been withheld for reasons not stated. The accounts of the correspondents of the New York papers not only confirm those previously received from Confederate sources, but admit the repulse of the ironclads to have been complete, and that no renewal of the attempt need be looked for. In their passage up the harbour the fleet discovered a network of obstructions stretching across the channel from Sumter to Moultrie, from Sumter to Cumming's Point, and from Fort Ripley to Fort Johnson. It was impossible to pass these obstructions, and after an engagement, lasting from three till five o'clock in the afternoon, the fleet returned to the harbour with five out of the nine ironclads damaged, and one of them, the Keokuk, sank the following morning from the injuries she received. During the last thirty minutes of the engagement the Federal fleet received a concentric fire from the Confederate batteries, which is described to have been so terrific as to render it impossible for any vessel to remain long under it. No explicit accounts are given of what damage was inflicted upon the Confederate forts. A correspondent of the *New York Tribune* says that the north-east face of Fort Sumter was marked with eleven holes, visible at a distance of three miles. Some gaps were three feet wide, and two embrasures seemed knocked into one. Of the nine Monitors that participated in the engagement, one, the Keokuk, was sunk, and has proved a total loss; another, the Passaic, received a shot that bent in her turret and disabled her 11-inch guns; three others, the Patapsco, Nantucket, and Nahant, were all more or less injured and rendered unfit for service. The condition of his fleet determined Admiral Dupont to abandon the idea of renewing the conflict. At the date of the last advices two of the Monitors had sailed for Port Royal, whither the remainder were shortly to follow. The Federal loss was twenty officers and men wounded, one of whom has since died. The Federals report that several breaches were made in the walls of Fort Sumter. The engagement, when fairly commenced, only lasted thirty minutes according to one account, and two hours according to another. No land force co-operated in the attack. General Hunter stated that he could only spare 7,000 men to co-operate with the fleet, and this force only proceeded to Stone Inlet, twelve miles from Charleston. Admiral Dupont's whole available force to hold the forts, if he captured them, was 1,100 men. The Confederates are said to have had some very effective Whitworth guns.

The result has caused great discouragement in New York, and revived the popular clamour for a change in the Administration. The violent outcry against Great Britain in continued in the Republican journals; it is declared that a war against England would effectually unite all parties in the North. The Solicitor-General and Lord Palmerston are vehemently denounced for their recent speeches on the depredations of the Alabama and Florida. The *New York Times* says that the Federal Government ought to take the ground that the fitting out of vessels against a neutral Power is essentially illegal under the law of nations. The *New York Tribune* says that the wrongs heaped upon the Americans by the British ruling classes are treasured up against the day of reckoning, which must surely come. It is said that the anti-English spirit is stimulated by the Government to distract public attention from the disheartening repulse before Charleston.

Advices from Moorhead city, North Carolina, to the 11th inst., state that up to that date all attempts to relieve General Foster at Washington had been unsuccessful. A detachment of 7,000 men, which had been despatched to his assistance, was driven back by the Confederates, with a loss to the Federals of fifty men. No communication had been received from General Foster subsequent to the 8th inst., and it is alleged that he had only provisions for one day, though according to another account, he could hold out for three weeks. He has refused to receive any more flags of truce, or to send away the women and children and other non-combatants.

All the expedition for the purpose of reaching the rear of Vicksburg *via* the several passes leading from the Mississippi have been abandoned. During the retreat of the Federals from Fort Pemberton and Yazoo Pass they were frequently fired upon by guerillas, and had thirty men killed and many wounded.

General Grant has moved his forces away from Vicksburg. It is supposed he will reinforce General Rosecranz, or make a movement inland into Mississippi. Five Federal ironclads were preparing to run the Vicksburg blockade. One Southern report states that Admiral Farragut was near the Red River, between two batteries, unable to pass either of them; another that he blockaded the river.

The correspondent of the *New York Times*, writing from New Orleans under date of April 5, states that the attitude of the Confederates at Port Hudson, Jackson, Mobile, and on the Atchafalaya justify the apprehension of an attack upon New Orleans, which the troops under General Banks are in no condition successfully to resist. The Confederate forces at the points named number nearly 65,000 men, and could be concentrated at New Orleans in 12 hours, while General Banks has less than 20,000 men.

It is believed that the remnant of the ironclads, so signally defeated on the 7th, will, as soon as repaired, be sent to New Orleans to make an attempt upon Port Hudson.

The *New York Tribune* states:—"It is reported that Mr. Seward has forwarded a despatch to Mr. Adams, dated the 13th inst., going so far as to intimate that if the British Government permit the Confederates to build and despatch piratical cruisers from England, it ought justly to be held responsible." The prize commissioners take all testimony in the case of the Peterhoff, and the case will be tried in the District Attorney's office at New York as soon as possible. The prize commissioners hold the mail-bag of the Peterhoff, and have invited the British Consul at New York to be present when it is opened. They also offered him the privilege of opening it, but he declined. The Government afterwards telegraphed that the mail-bag was not to be opened until further instructions. Lord Lyons demands the return of the mail-bag unopened.

The steamer Leopard has been burnt by the blockading squadron off Charleston. The crew escaped. The steamers Emma and Anna have arrived at Charleston.

It is currently reported in Havannah that Admiral Wilkes was held as a paroled prisoner there until he could explain why the Vanderbilt had fired a shot at a Spanish coasting steamer.

A grand mass meeting was called by the instigators of the Loyal National League to meet at Union-square on the anniversary of the fall of Fort Sumter. About 5,000 persons assembled, who were addressed by Generals Fremont and Sigel and the Postmaster-General, Mr. Montgomery Blair. The latter denounced the English aristocracy for fitting out the pirates Alabama and Florida, and advocated the vigorous prosecution of the war.

The disturbances between the white and coloured labourers in New York continue to be of frequent occurrence. On the 12th, in two instances, the negroes were driven from their work on the wharves by Irish and other labourers. One of the negroes fired a pistol into the crowd, wounding one of his assailants, and it was with great difficulty that the police prevented his being lynched on the spot.

In compliance with the request of the Confederate Congress, President Davis, on the 10th inst., issued an address to the people of the Confederate States upon the present condition and future prospects of their country. He says in this address that, alone and unaided, the Confederacy had defeated the most formidable military and naval combinations of its enemies, and, at the end of two years of war, could look back with pride upon all it had accomplished. Referring to the discomfiture of the Federals at Vicksburg, Port Hudson, and Charleston, he said that the forces of the Confederacy were never so numerous or efficient as at the present moment. He concluded by exhorting the people to be prepared

for the continuance of war, and to cultivate the crops for the sustenance of their armies rather than cotton and tobacco.

PARLIAMENTARY DIVISION.

QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.
In the House of Lords, on Friday, the above bill was rejected—Content, 52; Not Content, 69.

CONTENT.

LORDS.	EARLS.	LORDS.
Westbury (Lord Chancellor)	*Shaftesbury	*Lonsborough
DUKES.	*Zetland	*Lyttelton
Newcastle	VISCOUNT.	Lyveden
Somerset	*Sydney	*Manners
*Sutherland	LORDS.	*Meldrum (M. Huntley)
*Townshend	Belper	Methuen
MARQUIS.	Broughton	*Mousson
EARLS.	Carew	Overstone
Abingdon	Chesham	*Rivers
Airlie	Congleton	Sefton (Earl Sefton)
*Caithness	Cranworth	*Skene (Earl Fife)
Camperdown	*De Tabley	Somerhill (Marquis)
*Cottenham	Ebury	Stanley (Marquis)
Cowper	Foley (Teller)	Stanley of Alderley
De Grey	*Harris	Sunbridge (D. Argyll)
Ducie	*Hunsdon (V. Falkland)	Taunton
Granville	*Kintore (E. Kintore)	*Vaux of Harrowden
Grey	Lismore (V. Lismore)	*Vivian
Russell	Llanover	Wodehouse (Teller)
Saint Germans		

NOT CONTENT.

ARCHBISHOPS.	EARLS.	LORDS.
Canterbury	Mount-Edgcombe	Colville of Culross
York	Orkney	(Teller)
DUKES.	Pomfret	Conyers
Marlborough	Romney	Delamere
Richmond	Shrewsbury	Denman
MARQUIS.	Stanhope	De Ros
Northampton	Stradbroke	Egerton
Salisbury	Vane	Faversham
EARLS.	Wilton	Gage (V. Gage)
Bandon	VISCOUNTS.	Grinstead (E. Ennis-killen)
Bantry	Exmouth	Heytesbury
Beauchamp	Hardinge	Kingsdown
Belmore	Hawarden (Teller)	Leconfield
Carnarvon	Lifford	Lovel and Holland
Coventry	BISHOPS.	(E. Egmont)
Dartmouth	Bath and Wells.	Northwick
Derby	Cashel, &c.	Raglan
Devon	Exeter	Rayleigh
Ellenborough	London	Rodesdale
Erne	Rochester	Saltoun
Graham (D. Montrose)	Winchester	Silchester (E. Longford)
Hardwicke	Barnard	Soudes
Lonsdale	Caslemaine	Tenterden
Lucan	Chelmsford	Wynford
Malmesbury	Clifton (E. Darnley)	
Mayo.	Colchester	

PAIRS.

For.	Against.
Ailesbury, Marquis	Nelson, Earl
Sligo, Marquis	Ravenworth, Lord
Clarendon, Earl	Lanesborough, Lord
Wrottesley, Lord	Cardigan, Earl
Oremore, Lord	Rutland, Duke
Lyveden, Lord	Lifford, Viscount
Suffolk, Earl	Bath, Marquis
St. Albans, Duke	Vernham, Earl
Beaumont, Earl	Beverley, Earl
Mostyn, Lord	Howe, Earl
Camoy, Lord	Portarlington, Earl

The names of the Peers (twenty in number) who have an asterisk to their names voted last Friday, for the first time, in favour of the bill, including the Earl of Shaftesbury. There were twenty-seven Peers absent who have previously supported it, who if they had been present would have given Lord Wodehouse a majority of ten. The minority was three less than last year, but there were eleven pairs on this occasion.

The majority this year was 69, against 88 last year. It will be seen that the two archbishops and six bishops voted against the bill, while there were eleven last year.

FREEDMAN'S AID SOCIETY.—A crowded meeting was held on Friday night in St. James's Hall, under the auspices of the Freedman's Aid Society, to raise subscriptions to assist escaped slaves in the United States. Sir T. F. Buxton, Bart., presided, and stirring speeches were delivered by Mr. C. Buxton, M.P., Mr. T. Hughes, Mr. J. M. Ludlow, the Rev. Sella Martin, and others. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were unanimously adopted. Subscriptions from the chairman and Mr. C. Buxton, M.P., each of 100l., were announced.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVERSTOCK-HILL.—The 105th annual meeting of the governors of this charity was held on Friday, at the London Tavern, to receive the report, and to elect twenty boys and ten girls. Mr. John Remington Mills, M.P., presided. The report stated that the number of children in the schools on the 1st of January, 1863, was 297. There was accommodation for 400 children in the institution, and the committee would rejoice to see that number admitted. The falling off in the annual subscription was a subject of regret, but the legacies received, together with the funds which had been obtained from the special appeal, had enabled the committee to carry on the school without trenching on the funded property. A supplementary statement was added, showing that since the report was prepared, small-pox had broken out among the children, but there are only six cases, and they are doing well. All the other children had been re-vaccinated, and every precaution taken to prevent the spread of the disease. The examination of the children has been of course postponed. By the cash statement it appeared that the receipts had been 8,543l. 2s., and the expenditure 7,229l. 9s. 5d., leaving a balance in favour of the charity of 1,313l. 12s. 7d. The several officers having been appointed, and a petition ordered to be presented against the proposal to tax the income of charities, the meeting concluded by the election of thirty children out of a list of 127 candidates; for the result see advertisement in this day's paper.

Postscript.

Wednesday, April 29, 1863.

LATEST CONTINENTAL NEWS.

PARIS, April 28.—The Prince and Princess Napoleon are about to make a journey to Egypt and Palestine. A review of the army of Paris by the Emperor took place to-day. Count Levachef, Aide-de-Camp of the Emperor of Russia, has arrived here with despatches for the French Government.

LEMBURG, April 28.—Jezioranski, with the sub-commanders Schmiekowski and Woligorski, is stationed near Tarnograd, in the Government of Lublin, in command of a well-armed body of insurgents. Mosirkowski's corps has been beaten near Zarki, in the Government of Lublin. On Friday last Lelewel, with the insurgents under his command, was surrounded and defeated by 2,000 Russian troops. Lelewel was wounded, but escaped, together with 120 men.

VIENNA, April 28.—The *General Correspondent* of to-day denies the news published by the *Breslauer Zeitung*, that two of the Prussian corps d'armées have been put on a war footing.

COPENHAGEN, April 27 (Evening).—The *Berlingske Tidende* of to-day says:—"The Greek deputation was presented to-day to the King by the President of the Council. The members will, however, only be officially received by his Majesty when the acceptance of the crown by Prince William shall have been definitively agreed upon. An aide-de-camp and Court carriages have been placed at the disposal of the deputation."

TURIN, April 27.—The *Opinione* of to-day publishes a letter from Rome stating that it was rumoured there that the Pope, yielding to the influence of the Camarilla, which is in favour of Monsignor de Mérode, would accept the resignation of Cardinal Antonelli. A rumour was also current that Tristani had resigned the command of the brigands, and had been replaced by Perracanta Catalano. Tristani was about to leave for Trieste. Two hundred brigands had left Rome, and proceeded in the direction of Aquila. The Italian Government had, in consequence, taken precautionary measures.

STOCKHOLM, April 27 (Evening).—The whole Norwegian general staff has been summoned to Stockholm for the 1st of May.

CRACOW, April 28.—The usual annual procession of St. Mark, which was prohibited this year in Warsaw by the police, having nevertheless taken place, Archbishop Felinski is confined as a prisoner in his palace, and the Canons Bialobrzanski, Wyszynski, Poplawski, and others, as well as a great number of priests, have been arrested.

WARSAW, April 28.—In consequence of orders received here by telegraph from St. Petersburg, all the priests who were arrested for taking part in the procession of St. Mark have been set at liberty.

POSEN, April 28 (Evening).—Rumours have reached here of a sanguinary engagement at Jerzyce, near the Prusso-Polish frontier, which resulted in a body of Russian troops being driven across the Prussian frontier. Quarters are said to have been prepared for to-morrow for 600 Russian troops at Inorowolow.

VIENNA, April 28.—The *Presse* of to-day states that within the last few days the relations between Austria and the Western Powers have become cooler. Subsequently to the despatch of the second Austrian note England addressed a second note to St. Petersburg, without giving any intimation to the Austrian Government. The *Presse* argues from this that the Western Powers are desirous of rendering the part of mediator impossible for Austria.

BRUNN, April 28.—For the last two days Langiewicz has been very closely watched. Sentinels of the armed police are posted at his door. Langiewicz has addressed a complaint to the Ministry of Police.

THE LIVINGSTONE EXPEDITION ABANDONED.—By the Cape mail we learn that orders had been received for the recall and breaking up of the Livingstone expedition. The latest news from the missionary stations was favourable. Messrs. Chapman and Baines had effected their passage across from Walwich Bay to the Zambesi, and confirmed Dr. Livingstone's glowing description of Victoria Falls.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, last evening, there was not much business of importance. Lord STANLEY of Alderley stated, in reply to the Earl of Hardwicke, that the original requirements of the contract with the Galway Packet Company would be included in the renewed contract. Afterwards, on the suggestion of Earl GRANVILLE, the question on the proposed extensions of metropolitan railways was referred to the select committee on the question. The House adjourned at twenty minutes to six.

In the House of Commons, after the questions had been answered, General LINDSAY called attention to the case of the distinguished-service colonels, and moved for a Royal commission to inquire into the matter. The Marquis of HARTINGTON, on the part of the Government, said that, although the motion, if carried, would cause considerable inconvenience, he should not object to the issuing of a commission if the

House wished it. Sir J. Pakington, Mr. C. Buxton, Sir F. Smith, and Mr. Kinglake having spoken, Lord PALMERSTON said if the hon. member would withdraw the motion, he on the part of the Government would undertake that a Royal commission should issue. After a few words from Mr. DISKELL, General LINDSAY withdrew the motion.

COLONIAL DEFENCE.

An interesting debate on the defences of the colonies was then introduced by Mr. A. MILLS, who moved for papers relating to the military defence of Canada and New Zealand. He argued that these colonies ought to pay the expense of their local defences.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE said that though too little had been done in Canada to provide for military defence, yet something had been done. The volunteer system had been established and was extending, some 25,000 men having been enrolled in that service; while efforts were being made to remove the difficulties which stood in the way of raising the militia in the rural districts. Without denying the obligations which rested on the Imperial Government in regard to the defence of the colony, the Colonial Office had impressed on Canada the necessity of her bearing her full share of that burden. As to New Zealand, it was not a case of the external defence of the colony, but one involving the policy of the Home Government in reference to the dealing with the native tribes, and which had in fact produced internecine war, and therefore the responsibility of the military protection of the colony had been recognised by the Government, during the present crisis at least.

Mr. ADDERLEY supported the view that the colonies should provide for their own defence. Mr. BUXTON expressed similar opinions, and urged the Government to adopt a more decided policy in this matter.

Eventually the motion was withdrawn, on the undertaking by Mr. FORTESCUE that when the correspondence was completed it should be laid on the table.

IRON-CLAD SHIPS.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE moved for a Royal commission to inquire into the best form of iron-clad ships for the navy. Lord C. PAGET pointed out that now the Admiralty had competent advisers in the Comptroller of the Navy, with his staff of assistants, a Royal commission was anything but adapted to be the regular and permanent adviser of the description sought to be established. He described a series of experiments in iron-ship building, which the Admiralty were carrying out. The amendment and motion were withdrawn.

Mr. K. SEYMOUR moved that the analysis of evidence appended to the report of the select committee on sewage of towns in session 1862 be cancelled. It was prepared by the chairman, and was partial and one-sided. The motion having been disposed of, the other business was gone through, and the House adjourned at two o'clock.

THE ROYAL WEDDING PRESENTS are to remain for inspection at the South Kensington Museum until the evening of Monday, the 4th of May.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES honoured with their presence last evening, in state, the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden, where a festival performance was given, by command of the Queen, in honour of the marriage of their royal highnesses.

THE SOURCES OF THE NILE.—Sir Roderick Murchison writes to the *Times* of this morning:—"I have just received from Mr. Layard, M.P., Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, the intelligence, so highly gratifying to all geographers, that Captains Speke and Grant have completed their arduous journey across Eastern and Central Africa, from Zanzibar to Khartum, on the White Nile, where they had arrived in safety."

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH IN IRELAND.—From a Parliamentary return issued yesterday it appears that the total number of members of the Irish Established Church in 1834 was 853,160, while in 1861 it was only 691,872.

THE CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.—At this morning's sitting of the House of Commons, Mr. Gathorne Hardy will move that the above bill be read a second time this day six months. There is a prevalent impression that the bill will be rejected by a decisive majority.

HALIFAX ELECTION.—Mr. Stansfeld having accepted the post of Junior Lord of the Admiralty, offered him by Lord Palmerston, vacated his seat for Halifax, and was re-elected yesterday without opposition. In the course of his speech he said he hesitated long before he accepted the post. His friends in the House advised him to take it, for they said that if he declined it he would throw upon the Liberal party the onus of being exclusive. All things considered, he thought he had acted rightly, for he believed he should be of more use to his party and to his country by taking the humblest office, than by electing to play the part of a censor on political action for the remainder of his life.

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat received fresh up to this morning's market was small, but the condition of the produce was good. For both red and white qualities, there was a steady demand, and Monday's advance in prices was fully supported. The show of samples of foreign wheat was moderate, chiefly ex-Arganary. Holders of all descriptions were very firm, and, in some instances, the quotations further improved. Floating cargoes of grain were in request, on rather higher terms. Barley—the supply of which was small, moved off slowly; nevertheless prices were supported. Malt changed hands to a moderate extent, at previous quotations.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 1863.

SUMMARY.

THE American mail brings news of a heavy, though not unexpected, disaster to the Federal arms. For months past it has been announced that they were preparing to attack Charleston, and resolved to occupy the rebellious city, and raise Fort Sumter to the ground. Continual delays in the operation enabled the threatened capital of Secession to make the most formidable defensive preparations under the guidance of General Beauregard. On the 6th nine iron-clad ships entered Charleston harbour, were arrested by a network of obstruction stretching across the channel from Fort Sumter to Fort Moultrie, and there received the concentrated fire of the Confederate batteries. In two hours, five of the iron-clads were seriously damaged—one being sunk, and the remainder retired from the harbour more or less injured. Thus has terminated this most inglorious expedition. An armament which was formidable enough to have passed all the batteries on the Mississippi, and probably to have obliged the surrender of Fort Hudson and Vicksburg, has been shattered by the artillery of Charleston merely to gratify the revengeful spirit of the North in opposition to its material interests.

This gratuitous disaster, coupled with the failure at Vicksburg, and the precarious position of General Foster in North Carolina, has revived all the angry feelings of the sanguine Northern people, which are being directed by interested partisans against this country. The debates in both Houses of our Parliament during the week have also exhibited the bitter animosity which prevails on this side the Atlantic—and without adequate cause, if the exposition of recognised maritime law given in the *Times* of yesterday be correct. It is understood that our Government have made moderate representations to the Washington Cabinet relative to the summary seizure of British ships trading to Matamoras and other ports, while the prudence of Mr. Adams, the American Minister, has prevented the sending of a formal protest against his irregular proceedings. "It is therefore believed," says the *Times*, "that the relations between our Cabinet and the United States' Legation in London will continue on a friendly footing—a result which in a personal sense will afford unmixed satisfaction, since the individual and historical claims of Mr. Adams to respect and esteem have never been disputed in any quarter."

The diplomacy of Europe is awaiting with some anxiety, though without hope, the Czar's reply to the notes of the Three Powers on the Polish insurrection; which the Russian Government appears in no hurry to despatch. Perhaps Russia indulges the expectation that the insurrection will be virtually crushed before a diplomatic answer is sent to Western Europe. General Berg has, it is said, demanded 100,000 additional troops; a new levy of men is being made in the seven provinces bordering on Congress Poland; and the Russians have succeeded in defeating Lelewel, one of the most formidable guerilla leaders. There are signs that Austria is less than ever inclined to make peremptory demands upon the Czar, and no new facts have been divulged to indicate warlike tendencies on the part of the Emperor Napoleon. That Sovereign is endeavouring with moderate success to obtain the adhesion of all the smaller Courts of Europe to the demands made in the French note, and is said to have decided to leave the Polish question in its present

position till after the elections to the Corps Législatif in June.

Any regular outline of the proceedings of Parliament during the week is rendered unnecessary by the separate treatment of the principal topics of debate. Both Lords and Commons have discussed with no little heat several phases of our American relations, including the seizure of the Peterhoff, the carrying of mail-bags in trading vessels to Mexico, and the arrest of the steamer *Alexandra* at Liverpool. Several of the Budget resolutions have been discussed. The proposal to compel clubs to take out a license for the sale of spirituous liquors was strongly opposed by the aristocratic members, and carried only by 143 to 111. The extension of the income-tax to charitable endowments is likely to be assailed even more vigorously. Last night an interesting discussion took place on the subject of the defence of our colonies, and Mr. Chichester Fortescue showed that the Colonial Office are endeavouring with some success to relieve the Imperial exchequer of the burden of protecting those of our dependencies abroad which enjoy free institutions.

The exodus from Lancashire to our colonies has begun in earnest. Yesterday one thousand emigrants, from Oldham, Rochdale, Stockport, and other towns, left in a body for Liverpool, to embark for New Zealand, and others are ready to leave for Victoria. Last week the National Colonial Emigration Society was launched in London, and there is abundant evidence that a very large number of our unemployed operatives will seek a new field for their industry in our colonies, and that the public is willing to give pecuniary aid to this means of mitigating the distress of Lancashire.

Recent accounts from the Zambesi will have prepared the public for the announcement by the Cape mail just arrived, that the Livingstone expedition has been recalled, and broken up. It is clear now that a permanent settlement in that region of Africa was premature, if not impracticable. What is to be done with Bishop Twells, his crook and his coadjutors?

DRAGGING THE ANCHOR.

THE state of our relations with the Government at Washington, and, still more, the bitter animosity which it seems to be the aim of certain politicians on both sides the Atlantic to excite in the public mind, make us uneasy in regard to the maintenance of peace. We do not suspect Mr. Lincoln of any desire to provoke hostilities with this country. We are tolerably confident that our own Government are unanimously determined to endure much, if by means of such endurance they may avert collision. Yet, it must be confessed, the currents which tend to drag the anchor which the supreme authority on each side has deemed it prudent to cast, are very strong, and both nations may look upon themselves as highly favoured should the event ultimately prove that the measures adopted to prevent them from being forced into war have sufficed for that purpose. As yet our hopes predominate, but they are not unmingled with apprehensions—and we must do Lord Palmerston's administration the justice to acknowledge that our hopes are mainly grounded in the confidence which is inspired in us by their pacific and conciliatory bearing.

We know not how far the tone of a few Ministers and public men in the Northern States may be trusted as representatives of public feeling in America. We can have no doubt, however, that there is there, as well as here, a considerable and very noisy party, who mistake their own selfish interests for ardent patriotism. Some there are, it seems, who still profess to believe that anti-British sentiment would be a motive power strong enough to overbear the envenomed hatred of the South towards the North, and who, blinding themselves to the accumulated evidence of facts, cherish their old conviction that Americans of all parties, Republican and Democratic, devoted to slavery and sworn friends of emancipation, citizens under Jefferson Davis or under Abraham Lincoln, would forget their mutual antipathies, give to the winds their antagonistic principles, and unite in brotherhood as heartily as ever, the moment war shall have been proclaimed between Great Britain and the States. It is the study of some politicians to play skilfully upon this delusion, and to do so all the more perseveringly when they can divert attention thereby from calamities for which their own dishonesty or imbecility might else be called to account. Great numbers of men, moreover, are making large fortunes out of the present war, and are eager to keep alive among a heart-sore people a warlike spirit. To talk largely, to scatter threats abroad in unlimited profusion, and to bear themselves offensively towards Europe in her patience, appear to

be regarded by not a few as the best means of keeping up the spirit of a population grievously bowed down beneath the failures and disasters of the civil war.

On the other hand, there are not wanting people on this side the ocean who seem bent on exasperating their American kinsmen. Into every open wound they delight to drop vinegar. Wherever they can discover an abrasion they are sure to rub it. Every morbid susceptibility they deem it their duty to excite. They glory in holding up to ridicule the mistakes of a sensitive people, and where they can tread on corns they take good care to do so. Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Horsman may be cited as illustrations—the one differing from the other only as the butcher differs from the anatomist. "Tear 'em" is the appropriate soubriquet which the former conferred upon himself. Conceit and ill-temper seem to exclude all other feelings from his undisciplined soul. The latter does his work more artistically—uses the lancet instead of his teeth—and dissects those upon whom he operates with a precision, a coolness, and even an elegance of manner which, considering the nature of his work, sends a thrill of horror through your nerves. The speeches of these gentlemen have no very great effect in this country, where they are tolerably well known, but it is impossible to calculate the mischief they may produce across the water.

It is not, however, mere intemperance of speech on either side that awakens our fears. There is a large class of actions which, happening as they do upon the border land of neutrality, supply just that kind of material which, even in the hands of prudent men, requires the most delicate handling in order to preclude an explosion. The right of search may be carried out so annoyingly, the doctrines of Admiralty Courts may be pushed to such an excess by constructive reasoning, the spirit in which the Foreign Enlistment Act may be put in force may become so evasive on the one side, or so inquisitorial on the other, as to place serious obstacles in the way of legitimate commerce, and to excite chronic irritation among mercantile men whether at home or abroad. The two debates which followed each other so closely in the House of Commons last week, and the manner in which Earl Russell has been baited in the House of Lords, reveal a state of feeling in the governing class of this country which it is impossible to observe without uneasiness. Right glad have we been to note the disposition of our Government to abide by the decisions which, convenient as they were for us when belligerent, tell with vexatious effect upon our rights now that we are neutral. Heartily do we hope that the bitter humiliations we are compelled to submit to with as good a grace as we can, will dispose us, when the proper time shall arrive, to a searching revision of the principles of International Maritime Law. Meanwhile, we devoutly pray that all who have influence will follow Mr. Cobden's example, and put in juxtaposition with the affronts which certain American naval officers are but too ready to offer us, the friendly acts of the American Government on former occasions when any permission of breaches of neutrality by citizens of the United States might have irreparably damaged our prospects, and when, in the teeth of popular opposition, they nobly took steps to make their neutrality effective.

We are all aware that great latitude is claimed by, and must be allowed to, the trade of neutrals, in regard to its dealings with belligerent nations. We cannot prevent British subjects from supplying either or both of them with articles contraband of war. They do it at their own risk, and they are bound to bear the penalty. If, however, shippers and merchants choose to fish for enormous profits in troubled waters, and expose one of the contending Powers to constant embarrassments, it ill becomes the British people to look with a jealous eye upon every instance of overstrained official zeal in the attempt to frustrate enterprises undertaken with a view to feed the enemy. Above all, they are scarcely called upon to sympathise with, far less to applaud, those subjects of the Queen, whatever may be their station, influence, or political opinion, who daringly evade the law of their own country, set at nought the proclamation of their Sovereign, and expose the nation to the danger of war, by building and equipping vessels of war for service against a Power with which her Majesty is at peace. Men who do this, and who openly glory in doing it, surpass in guilt the ringleader of a riot as much as war between two States exceeds in importance an *émeute* in a provincial town. No countenance should be given to such illicit mischief-making. No delicacy is due to such as persist in it. And if, in consequence of their malpractices, the innocent are watched with unpleasant vigilance, it behoves them to protect themselves from the nuisance of being intermeddled with, by themselves dragging to the light of day the offences of members of their own craft, and visiting them with social reprobation. We do

not shut our eyes to the blustering demeanour of some of the American naval commanders, nor our ears to the absurd demands of some of the American authorities, but we are obliged to confess that if the relations of the two Governments are in an unsettled condition, and if the vessel of the State drags her anchor, the proximate cause of what all must regard as a misfortune is the unlawful course pursued by those of the Queen's subjects who supply the Confederates with Alabamas, and expose the commerce of a friendly Power to evils closely akin to those of piracy.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL.

THE Committee appointed by her Majesty to consider the best means of giving effect to her Majesty's wishes and to those of the British public in respect to a Memorial to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, have sent in their third, and, we suppose we may add, their definitive report. From it we learn, not without a feeling of regret, that the amount of private subscriptions contributed by the people of the United Kingdom with a view of expressing in a visible, enduring, and suitable form, the respect and affection inspired in them by the beautiful life of Albert the Good, can hardly be regarded as adequate for the purpose. The fact may be readily explained, and that, too, without casting the lightest shadow of suspicion on the reality or the depth of the attachment cherished by all classes for the memory of the Prince—but we could earnestly have desired, nevertheless, that it had been otherwise. We are bound, as well in justice to the liberality of the public as to the reputation of his late Royal Highness, to bear in mind that the sum of 60,000*l.* available to the Committee represents but a small proportion of the money freely subscribed to record the people's admiration of his virtues, and their unfeigned grief for his premature decease. There are but few important towns in the kingdom in which some local design has not been, or is not being, carried into effect to perpetuate the ever-memorable name of Prince Albert, and, although this circumstance has necessarily tended to keep down the amount of the central fund, it will serve, on the other hand, to associate that name with some visible tribute of affectionate remembrance in every part of the land. Perhaps, also, the unbounded demand made upon private munificence by the sudden and extensive calamity which overwhelmed the cotton districts, and exposed half-a-million of people to destitution, may be referred to as a further explanation of the fact that the Memorial fund has not reached a higher figure.

Her Majesty's Ministers have only correctly interpreted the wishes of her subjects in submitting to the House of Commons a proposal to grant a sum of 50,000*l.* in aid of the Memorial fund. In making the application, which, we need hardly say, was unanimously acceded to, not only without hesitation, but with demonstrations of pleasure, Lord Palmerston stated that the intention of Government had been formed from the outset, namely, that, in addition to the spontaneous contributions of individuals, the nation, in its collective capacity, should have an opportunity of marking the high sense it entertained of the Prince's character and life. The amount to be thus added to the fund would be partly ruled, of course, by the amount voluntarily subscribed by the public, and partly, also, by the design ultimately fixed upon by the committee for suitably embodying the country's sentiment on the loss it had sustained. The report of the Committee, since published, enabled Ministers to decide on the proper sum to be applied for, and, it must be admitted, it is extremely moderate in comparison with the end to be achieved.

The report of the Committee, and her Majesty's observations upon it, will be read with the deepest interest. The Committee detail the steps by which, and the reasons on account of which, they arrived at the conclusion to recommend to the Queen's choice the design of Mr. George Gilbert Scott for a Gothic cross, having a statue of the Prince "within the structure, but open to view, and, in a great measure, open to the air." Their first idea was to erect a gigantic monolith obelisk, which, as our readers are aware, was abandoned almost as soon as it was formed, not, we suspect, without the secret satisfaction of the country. A monument expressing little more than a barren triumph over all but insuperable physical obstacles would hardly have been the most appropriate symbol of the rich wisdom, the moral beauty, and the strong tendency to practical usefulness which distinguished in an unusual degree Prince Albert's mind. There was much more to be said in favour of the second suggestion made by the Committee, combining with a work of sculpture fitted to go down to posterity as a personal Memorial a building

devoted to the use of Science and Art as applied to productive industry. It was hoped that the two things might be so connected by relative position and by a certain harmony of design as would fairly represent the nation's affectionate veneration for the personal virtues of the Prince Consort, and, at the same time, promote those pursuits in which he took so great an interest, and to associate with both the recollections of the Exhibition of 1851. This project also the Committee have found themselves compelled to abandon, for the present at least, on account of the expense.

Obliged to restrict the application of their funds to a personal Memorial, the Committee have done wisely, we think, in recommending Mr. Scott's design. It will not typify all that a monument to Prince Albert should have expressed—but it will go far towards realising that end, and it will leave room, as it were, for a subsequent and supplementary structure which, in combination with it, would satisfy every want. A perfect Albert Memorial should express pathos, beauty, majesty, and usefulness. The Gothic—or, as it is more commonly designated, the Eleanor—Cross, designed by Mr. Scott, will answer the first three of the requirements, but not the fourth. It is historically associated with Royal bereavement, and the style is that, as the artist observes, "of the most touching monuments ever erected in this country to a Royal Consort." The Committee assure us—and, for the present, we must take for granted the correctness of their judgment—that "the beauty of this example" (of the Gothic Cross), "if it could be carried into execution without sacrificing the richness and completeness of its effect, would abundantly compensate" for "a certain want of originality in a monument of this kind." The height of this shrine intended to give conspicuousness to a statue of Prince Albert, and the fulness and variety of architectural expression which will enrich the monumental mass, will fairly represent the majestic proportions and the varied culture of that soul the departure of which from amongst earthly scenes of effort, duty, and enjoyment, the Memorial is intended to mark as a regretful event. So far, all is appropriate; and we only regret that the design must be—temporarily, at any rate—dissociated from a Central Hall which would also have symbolised the bent for practical usefulness which strongly characterised the Prince's mind.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE WITH THE LANCASHIRE OPERATIVES?

RIP VAN WINKLE has awakened after his fifteen years' doze. Mr. Busfield Ferrand has been boring the House of Commons with one of those coarse diatribes which, in the height of the Free-trade struggle, delighted the enraged Protectionists, but on Monday night was felt to be an anachronism even on the Tory benches. It is curious, but, we suppose, unavoidable, that the initiative of a solemn debate on the greatest industrial calamity that has ever come upon England should have fallen to a man who is more of the demagogue than a statesman; still more so, that the bulk of his rambling speech should have consisted of virulent attacks upon a trade by which his assumed clients have hitherto subsisted, and upon manufacturers who are not only suffering with their work-people, but have subscribed a very large share of the 1,400,000*l.* contributed by Lancashire to the relief of the operatives. For two weary hours and a-half the House was obliged to listen with patience to a long-winded speech from the accidental member for Devonport, denouncing the factory system "which had destroyed nine generations of operatives," and attempting to fasten upon Mr. Cobden and others the responsibility of the sufferings endured by the present generation. Such ravings were too absurd even for country gentlemen. It would have been disrespectful to the operatives to have put down the incendiary orator, but member after member slipped away till scarcely forty auditors were left, when Mr. Ferrand concluded by moving, "That in the opinion of this House it is the duty of the Government to take into consideration without delay what measures may be necessary to relieve the distress which prevails in the cotton-manufacturing districts, so that the people may no longer continue unemployed."

The first stage of the Lancashire calamity has been passed. It was hoped at the end of last year that the generous and spontaneous aid of the British people—which is represented by the magnificent sum of 2,735,000*l.*—would, with the provisions of the Poor Laws, enable the operatives to tide over the crisis. But the lapse of several months has brought no tangible improvement in their prospects. The greater number of the mills are still closed; the raw material of manufacture remains at famine

prices; and, according to candid testimony, "the present system of relief (as any prolonged relief must do) is surely producing the very evil it was intended to avert—pauperism." There is still no lack of means to support the unemployed for some months on their present pittance—845,000*l.* of subscriptions and rates being still in hand. But the rust of idleness is gathering over the cotton-hands, and their moral as well as physical qualities are becoming rapidly deteriorated by want of occupation. Nothing, we are told by competent witnesses, can save them from a pauperised spirit but a return to remunerative labour.

After the dismal episode of Mr. Ferrand's speech, this was the practical question that occupied the House of Commons on Monday night. It was generally admitted that emigration, however desirable, was but an auxiliary remedy, and that emigration must be left to private effort. The great mass of the unemployed must remain behind, and be kept in a condition that will preserve their independence and industrial habits. Some few thousands of the operatives have been absorbed into other trades, or employed by neighbouring landowners. But generally speaking the labour market is everywhere overstocked, and the only resource is to find special employment for them on the spot. And this is the scope of the plan announced by the President of the Poor Law Board. Mr. Villiers stated that it was intended by Government to organise a system of local public works, and a working commission is to be sent down to Lancashire to ascertain what undertakings can be entered upon. There are at present some 72,000 able-bodied men among the 420,000 persons now subsisting on public charity, and it is believed that in carrying out works of drainage, sewerage, water supply, parks and recreation grounds, improved and new streets, highways and roads, new burial-grounds, the whole of these unemployed adults might be profitably employed. The Commission is to proceed at once to its allotted task, and Mr. Villiers hopes that in three weeks it will have gained information enough to form the groundwork for subsequent operations.

In their proposed scheme the Government are promised the hearty co-operation of the Manchester Central Committee; and it will unquestionably require much care, inquiry and co-operation, before it can be matured, and watchful superintendence to prevent abuse. For the improvements suggested Parliament will, of course, find the money in the first instance, to be afterwards repaid by those who derive the benefit, and such works, to be useful, will have to be carried on by local administration. These are questions of detail in which the Government will be guided by the opinions of the experienced persons who are to be sent to make inquiries. But, according to all accounts, there is ample scope for such works, and abundance of willing labour to employ upon them. On these points Messrs. Harrison and Lushington, who have lately visited Lancashire, say in the *Times*:—"Every one of the towns of Lancashire requires some considerable public improvement. Parks, public walks, town-halls, markets, fountains, aqueducts, reservoirs, new streets, better drainage, are required in almost all. Such towns as Oldham, Ashton, and Blackburn could easily obtain such parks as municipal and private munificence has given to Bradford and Halifax. Preston requires a market, Rochdale a river embankment. All of the towns in their water-supply, sewerage, public places and buildings, are far below manufacturing towns in Yorkshire, and vastly below the standard of their own wealth and intelligence. They are, as we all know, dismal and unclean beyond anything in civilised Europe. The present is an occasion for removing this reproach. The labour power is there; the work to be done is there; the organisation to direct it is there. If only one-third of the unemployed operatives were selected as fit for the work, we might have some 40,000 men restored to healthy labour, and permanently improving their towns. Mixed with skilled artisans and professional excavators, they would soon be fit to take part in extensive and various undertakings. They would work on them with a will, for they would know that they were labouring for themselves and their families, that they were doing something to prolong the lives of their children and their own, and in which as citizens they could share."

To all such undertakings carried on at the cost of the State there are weighty objections. But in the present instance there is only a choice of evils. An artificial system of industry is, as it has been truly said, better than an artificial system of idleness; and though abuses must necessarily spring out of such a scheme as Mr. Villiers proposes, they will be of less importance than the rescue of our idle operatives from pauperism. Judiciously managed, these works may be the means of keeping them in health, industry, and independence till the revival of the cotton-

trade enables them to resume their wonted employment.

WORKING MEN'S CLUBS AND TRADES UNIONS.

It will be in the recollection of some of our readers that about two months ago we took occasion to call attention to the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, dwelling mainly upon that feature in its organisation which marked it as an agency calculated to counteract the noxious influence of the Public-house upon the social life of the Working Classes. Its primary object as we then pointed out is to provide for them "Public-houses without the drink," or in the words of the Union:

To provide a Club or Institute as members of which the working men of the neighbourhood can enjoy rational social intercourse with each other, coupled with opportunities for mental improvement, recreation, and mutual helpfulness; and further, to give them facilities for carrying on various plans of social improvement, such as Co-operative Societies, Friendly or Benefit Clubs, Mutual Improvement Societies, Building Societies, and the like, in the prosecution of which working men are at present often obliged to resort to public-houses, for the mere want of better meeting places.

Many causes have operated within the last few months to stimulate philanthropists at home, and to enlist the support and advocacy of the press in favour of various schemes for the amelioration of the condition of the working classes; amongst others, perhaps we might mention Mr. Peabody's munificence, and the universal expression of sympathy which the distress in Lancashire has evoked towards those whom fortune, or misfortune, has made dependent upon their more wealthy fellows. We have already referred to such schemes as "Dining and Refreshment Rooms for the Working Classes" and "Improved Dwellings for the Poor," and we take advantage of the interest which has been excited in these and kindred schemes to give a further commendation of the plans and object of the Club and Institute Union.

The consideration which we believe first led to the initiation of the project which about nine months ago resulted in the establishment of this Union, is one which must have presented itself more or less vividly to the minds of all who have had any opportunity of observing the condition of the industrial poor. It is this:—"Why should there not be the same variety of innocuous yet gratifying amusements and recreation provided for them as for the members of the middle and upper classes of society?" This inquiry, however, although it touches a question of vital importance, suggests only a fraction of the evil which poor workpeople suffer, and which the Working Men's Club and Institute Union aims to remedy. In our day they have the same temptation to contend against which a century or two ago beset almost all classes irrespectively of position. They cannot meet for the interchange of familiar conversation and debate—they cannot conduct the affairs of their friendly and benefit societies—they cannot consult the register of "situations vacant," without resorting to the public-house. The publicans being wise in their generation know how to ply their trade so as best to serve their own interest while seeming to study the necessities of their customers. Hence it is that the various trades' unions, friendly societies, and benefit clubs, are inseparably connected with the publican interest, and the very evils which they were originally designed to destroy are outdone by the demoralisation inseparably associated with the tap-room. Whatever may be the true explanation of their origin, there is at the root of these societies a true theory or ideal of brotherly co-operation and mutual help which has not yet had a fair chance of development. They are not necessarily political combinations, nor is it a condition of their existence and success, that they should represent employer and employed as opposing and hostile parties. By whatever means they may be cut loose from the vicious influences of which even their leaders complain, an inestimable boon will be conferred upon them and upon society at large. It is a matter for sincere congratulation, therefore, that their representatives have fully recognised the importance of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, and have resolved to co-operate with it in accomplishing the object for which it strives. We subjoin an advertisement which has for some weeks appeared in the *Beehive*, the organ of the trades unions:—

At a Conference held on Friday evening last, March 6th, between a deputation from the Council of the above Institute and several leading members of the various Metropolitan Trade Societies, at the office of the Union, 150, Strand, the following resolution was on the motion of Mr. Mantz, seconded by Mr. Dunning, unanimously adopted:—"That in the opinion of this meeting Working Men's Clubs and Institutes are calculated to promote a good understanding, and a spirit of mutual helpfulness among all classes of the community; that they will

necessarily promote the interests of all wisely-constituted trade societies, as well as the pecuniary well-being both of the employer and the employed; that in various other ways, especially in shortening hours of labour, working men's clubs are fitted to assist the working classes of this country in their social, intellectual, and moral elevation. That it is therefore desirable that the officers of the various trade societies throughout the country should be invited to consider the propriety of recommending the formation of these clubs, and of assisting the council of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union in their efforts to establish them in various parts of the country.

This resolution we take in its integrity; assuming that it is neither the intention of the Trades Unionists to modify, nor of the council of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union to cede those distinctive principles and conditions which the latter have set forth as the basis upon which their operations will be conducted.

We earnestly commend the objects of this Union to the attention of all those who are interested in the formation of Working Men's Institutes or in the growth and progress of those already existing. In some towns the experiment has already been made, and has been most earnestly supported on all sides. A correspondent of the *Beehive* writing from Scarborough of a club recently formed in that town, says: "Builders freely gave wood, ironmongers gave nails and screws, grocers gave coffee, sugar, milk, &c., for refreshment to the men in the workshops; in fact the committee have only to make known any article wanted, and it is speedily furnished." Willing hands and hearts may safely be reckoned upon wherever the project is started, for it is one of its most prominent features that it does not invite any more than a limited patronage of the middle and upper classes, appealing to them only to "help working men to help themselves."

The immediate and urgent need is that intelligent philanthropic gentlemen should put themselves in communication with the secretary (the Rev. H. Solly, 150, Strand, W.C.) with a view of obtaining from him such practical hints and suggestions as are afforded in the publications of the Union, as to the mode in which the matter may be fairly brought before those who are themselves most deeply interested in it—The Working Classes.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

In the Corps Législatif, on Saturday, in reply to a question from M. Emile Ollivier, relative to Poland, M. Billault said that great reserve in speaking was necessary for all the interests engaged in the question. "The Government," he said, "will give no explanation which might injure the success of negotiations." M. Billault continued:—

We are all animated by a cordial feeling for the sufferings of Poland, but are convinced that the question is a European one, and that the sympathies of all Europe must concur in settling it. The Government regrets that people allow themselves to be so easily attracted to foolish and unreasonable oscillations and suppositions, to-day believing in a general conflagration, and to-morrow completely forgetting the difficulties of the situation. Affairs wisely conducted do not run into these extremes. The country should have full confidence in the wisdom, prudence, and firmness of him who, having such great interests in his hands, well understands all his responsibility.

M. Billault's speech was received with applause.

It is said that all the French diplomatic agents in Germany, including the Ambassador of France at Berlin, have been charged to seek from the Governments to which they are accredited their adherence to the despatch addressed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys to St. Petersburg on the subject of Poland. The *Indépendance* further observes that it will be exceedingly inconvenient to many Powers to give a reply to France, and it is probable that several of the answers will be of a very evasive character.

It is rumoured that the Emperor Napoleon will shortly address an electoral manifesto to the French people, and that this document will be published in the *Moniteur* a few days before the elections.

The Prince and Princess Napoleon have set out for Florence.

MM. Persigny and Billault have been examined at Paris by the commission sent from London in the affair of the *Morning Chronicle*. They positively deny all complicity or engagement with that paper.

ITALY.

Baden has recognised the Kingdom of Italy.

The French occupying Viterbo are to be replaced towards the middle of May by Papal Zouaves.

Baron Ricasoli has had an interview of two hours with the King at Florence. A Turin letter says:—

This act of homage was particularly gratifying to Victor Emmanuel, owing to past differences between himself and the baron, and it has immensely delighted the people, who have the very highest regard for the chivalrous disposition of Ricasoli. Their interview lasted nearly two hours. The baron was very much pleased with it, and as for the King, he spoke of it three or four times in the course of the day, and said in the presence of several persons—"Baron Ricasoli is one of the best of citizens, and with men of his stamp the nation cannot perish."

POLAND.

The intelligence from Poland this week is rather meagre. The Russian Government have forbidden the religious processions at Warsaw which usually take place at this time of the year. The archbishop, however, having protested against this prohibition, the people formed a procession, whereupon the priests and many other persons taking part in it were arrested.

It is stated from Thorn that the Marquis Wielopolski, who does not agree with General Berg, will not resign; that there were rumours that a constitution would be granted to Congress Poland; and that public opinion in Poland was opposed to any compromise.

The Chief of the Warsaw Revolutionary Committee has issued a special order of the day, forbidding the inhabitants to pay taxes to the Russian Government.

It seems that all Russian subjects who have sought refuge in Posen, and are now retained on Prussian territory, are to enjoy the benefit of the late amnesty. It is said that the majority have declared their intention of returning to their homes, and have requested Russian passports for that purpose.

The following telegrams have been published:—

OSTROWO, April 21 (Evening).

The Russian General Waldersee has arrived here.

The College of Pleschen has not been closed, but the students have been expelled.

The frontier continues to be most strictly guarded, neither passengers nor goods being permitted to pass.

THORN, April 22.

On Sunday last two serious engagements took place between the insurgents and Russian troops in the forest of Kampinos, six German miles from Warsaw and Pultusk. The latter place was burnt by the Russians during the engagement.

CRACOW, April 22.

The insurgents under Lelewel have defeated a Russian corps, consisting of 600 infantry and 200 cavalry, who retreated to Janow.

CRACOW, April 23.

The *Czas* of to-day says:—

"The Hussars of the Guard who were pursuing the insurgents have been beaten by them, with the loss of 300 killed and wounded."

"Yesterday four engagements were fought between the insurgents and the Russian troops in the vicinity of the Cracow and Warsaw Railway."

GERMANY.

The Government of Hanover has proposed to the Germanic Confederation certain resolutions of a peculiarly trenchant character in regard to the recent Danish proclamation and the Schleswig-Holstein question. These resolutions call upon the Diet to declare the conditions established by the King of Denmark in that proclamation illegal, and to demand their retraction; and, furthermore, to protest against any severance of Schleswig from Holstein, or any incorporation of Schleswig with Denmark. This is taking direct issue with Denmark, and should the Diet adopt the resolutions a crisis cannot be far off.

AUSTRIA.

The provincial diet of the Tyrol, it will be remembered, passed some resolutions in February last of a retrograde character, directed against the residence in the Tyrol of Protestants. We now learn that the Pope has addressed a letter to the Bishop of Brixen, who was the author of these propositions, testifying his "profound joy" at the resolutions of the diet. The Pontifical letter also expresses the hope that the Emperor will comply with the wishes of the Tyrolese assembly.

THE THRONE OF GREECE.

According to the Danish official organ Prince Christian has had a long interview with Sir A. Paget, the British Minister, at which his Royal Highness declared that the only obstacles which had hitherto opposed the acceptance of the crown of Greece—namely, the abdication of King Otho and the state of the Greek finances—having now been fully removed, he definitely accepted it for his son, Prince William.

The *Moniteur* says:—"The difficulties which delayed the acceptance of the Greek Crown by Prince William of Denmark seem upon the point of being removed. The English Government has proposed a conference of the three protecting Powers, to be held in London."

It is stated that, should the Bavarian Government refuse to surrender their dynastic rights, the Powers will pass over their protest, and recognise the election of Prince William of Denmark.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

On Monday the Emperor Napoleon completed his fifty-fifth year.

On Easter Monday a demonstration took place at Corfu in favour of the cession of the islands to Greece.

The Portuguese Chamber of Peers has approved the abolition of majorats (landed property descending with the title to an heir) by 53 against 26 votes.

DANGER OF RUNNING THE AMERICAN BLOCKADE.—Out of twenty-three steamers, comprising, if not all, the greater portion, of the blockade-runners of Liverpool, no less than twelve have been captured.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.—Immediately on the re-assembling of the Canadian Legislature action is to be taken on the motion of the Hon. John A. Macdonald, to set aside 500,000 acres of the public lands on behalf of the distressed Lancashire operatives who desire to settle in Canada.

YOUNG MORTARA.—A letter from Rome states that on Quasimodo Sunday, after mass, the Pope allowed the pupils of the College of the Propaganda and of

the College of St. Pierre-es-Liens to kiss his feet. On that occasion young Mortara presented himself to his Holiness, and recited a piece in verse, in his own name and that of his fellow-pupils.—*Galignani.*

THE CONDEMNED PROTESTANTS IN SPAIN.—The *Siecle* says:—"We regretted the other day that M. Odillon Barrot during his stay at Madrid did not carry out the intention which various journals had ascribed to him, of soliciting from the Queen of Spain the pardon of the condemned Protestants. We learn that the illustrious orator wished to take charge of a petition signed by 30,000 French ladies, many of whom are Catholics, in favour of the prisoners confined for the offence of heresy. This petition was in reality presented by the Duc de Montpensier to his sister-in-law, Isabella II., who replied to it by a positive refusal."

THE NONCONFORMIST SETTLEMENT IN NEW ZEALAND.—We see from the *Daily Southern Cross* for January that the first instalment of lands "purchased by the new town of Port Albert" have been put up for sale by public auction, and fetched good prices. We regret, however, to find that a very serious misunderstanding has occurred between Mr. Brame and his co-trustees. The lands in question were sold under the authority of Mr. Brame, who is charged with having secured a Crown grant of them in his own name while he was understood by the settlers to be acting only as their agent. He, in return, makes large money claims upon the settlement. "It is to be regretted," says the *Daily Southern Cross*, "that the list of deserters from the settlement still increases rather than diminishes. The expenses of transit have been so ruinous that with many this is a matter of necessity. With others, doubtless, it arises from a deficiency of patient courage. The exact number of settlers now on the Oruawharo cannot be told, but it would certainly not exceed 200. There is, however, amongst them a determined energy that must ensure success. The few crops that were necessarily put in hurriedly and with little preparation of the soil, have mostly failed; but this result was so far anticipated that it has not had much influence in disheartening the settlers. The crop of Indian corn alone is generally succeeding. As many, probably, as twenty of the settlers have secured cattle of various descriptions, and we may expect, before long, that a large number will be on the settlement. The Oruawharo block abounds everywhere with feed of the best quality. On the township a good business is being done, both at Mr. Gray's stores, and at the stores of the Co-operative Association; Mr. Levett is most successfully pursuing his calling as a tinman; Mrs. Isles has opened a tea and coffee-room, which is well frequented; Mr. Moulden finds considerable occupation in shoemaking; and Mr. Judd in the sale of ribbons and drapery. The religious services of the Sabbath are well attended, and it may be hoped that both commercial and Christian influences are binding the young community together. The chief immediate wants of the settlement are education, chiefly for the children on the township, and buildings for religious services and other meetings. There seems every probability of a hospital being built on the township; and if the sale of these lands can be satisfactorily arranged, it will doubtless give a progressive impetus to the place. We are glad to be able to state that the sale of alcohol, which had commenced, has been abandoned, and is not likely to be revived at present, inasmuch as a large majority of the settlers are opposed to it."

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

BRITISH SHIPPING AND FEDERAL CRUISERS.—THE SEIZURE OF THE DOLPHIN.

On Thursday the Marquis of CLANRICARDE called attention to the seizure of British vessels in the West Indies by American cruisers, and more especially to the case of the *Dolphin*, whilst on a legitimate voyage from Liverpool to Nassau. He argued, in warm terms, that these cases could not be overlooked as isolated acts.

Earl RUSSELL objected to the very strong language of the noble lord, which was based not on official information, but on flying rumours and *ex parte* reports. It was the duty and the proper course for the Government to take in such a matter to refer to the law-officers of the Crown for their advice and opinion as to the character of the acts complained of. They had consulted their legal advisers, who stated that in a *prima facie* view of the case there was no ground to justify the seizure of the *Dolphin*, but that there might be facts which constituted a good reason for sending her before a prize-court. In two points there was no doubt that the American cruiser was wrong—first, in abusing the protection of a neutral port; and, secondly, in landing the crew on neutral territory. He intended to bring this, by the next mail, under the notice of the United States Government, and he had no doubt, judging from precedent, that it would readily make reparation if a wrong had been done. With respect to the certificate granted by Mr. Adams, he said, "There can be no doubt that the conduct of Mr. Adams is entirely unwarrantable, but I should not think of complaining to Mr. Adams. I shall bring that conduct before the consideration of the United States Government. (Hear, hear.) It is for them to say in what manner such an act should be visited." (Cheers.) His lordship vindicated the general policy of the Government with regard to the *Sea Queen*, and concluded—

Those persons who think that, whatever may be the destination of a ship and whatever papers she may have

on board showing that she is about to break the blockade, or to carry arms to some one of the Confederate States now in hostility with the United States, they are to be protected by the power of the British nation in contradiction to all our own decisions and in contradiction to the declared law of nations, will, I hope, know that the British Government never will place itself in that position. (Cheers.) Let us look impartially at these cases which have occurred. It may be that we have suffered grievous wrong; it may be that we have a right to considerable reparation; but let the two Governments treat the cases fairly. We have on this side of the Atlantic the decisions of a great Judge; in America they have the views laid down by Judge Story and the writings of Mr. Wheaton. With these authorities to guide us, let us see who is in the right and who is in the wrong. But let us discuss the circumstances with a wish to do justice to each other. Don't let us be led by passion into anything which is not founded on justice, and which cannot afterwards be justified in the face of the world. (Cheers.)

The Earl of CARNARVON said that the observations of the noble Earl favoured the idea that American ships of war had a right to seize British vessels engaged in a neutral and legitimate trade, and even to open and act on the correspondence contained in her Majesty's mails.

Earl RUSSELL said that he never intended anything of the kind to be supposed; indeed, Mr. Seward had expressly disclaimed any such rights in his instructions to the American naval officers.

The Earl of DERBY strongly complained of the conduct of the Government. It was their duty, instead of withdrawing the mails of the *Sea Queen*, to have insisted on their being conveyed in her, affording the vessel at the same time proper protection from the Federal cruisers.

Earl GREY did not think that it was just or reasonable that British vessels trading to neutral ports, and in so doing at liberty to carry even contraband of war, should be deprived of any sort of security. He hoped that the Government would see that British vessels were properly protected, and that the owners of the vessels seized were adequately compensated. At the same time the Government could not help the inconvenience attached to vessels trading to suspected ports, but they ought always to take care that the rights allowed to belligerents were not wantonly or aggressively used.

Lord STANLEY of Alderley said that the *Sea Queen* was in a different position to a mail-steamer.

Lord WODEHOUSE said that with ships sailing to a neutral port like Matamoras, one *bond fide* voyage ought not to be questioned by the Federal cruisers. There might be some question as to the destination of the goods conveyed by her after they were landed at the neutral port, but that did not all affect the vessel on her voyage. In the present temper of the American people, the Government could only preserve the peace by acting firmly whilst they proceeded calmly, and by not abating one jot of their own rights while respecting the rights of others.

Earl GRANVILLE said the Government had acted prudently and satisfactorily under very delicate circumstances, and deprecated angry discussion on uncertain information.

The subject then dropped, and their Lordships adjourned at 10.0 p.m.

AMERICA—THE MAIL-BAG QUESTION.

On Friday, Lord RUSSELL drew attention to an apparent inconsistency in Mr. Seward's instructions to naval officers of the United States in respect to opening mails on board ships seized by American cruisers, and requested to know whether Lord Russell deemed such instructions satisfactory. Lord RUSSELL was understood to say that the instructions had been modified; but the practice referred to was to a certain degree sanctioned by Lord Stowell. Lord DERBY was astonished to hear that her Majesty's Government could acquiesce in so monstrous a claim on the part of the American Government. Lord CLANRICARDE thought the opening of mails by any British consul required the most serious consideration of the Government. Lord CHELMSFORD asked if there were any truth in the report that two more British ships had been seized, as stated in the evening papers? Lord RUSSELL said the information received was that the vessels were seized in the act of breaking the blockade. He also explained that Mr. Seward had caused a modification of the instructions issued by Mr. Welles to the Federal naval officers. In reply to a question from Lord Ellenborough, he stated that consuls had no right to open letters, but that they might be taken before a prize-court. After some remarks from Lord Hardwicke and Lord Taunton, Lord RUSSELL said he would on Monday endeavour to lay on the table the opinion of the law-officers of the Crown.

QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.

Lord WODEHOUSE, in moving the second reading of this bill, said this was the fifth time that a bill of this nature had come up from the House of Commons, a circumstance which would relieve him from the necessity of making more than a few observations. His lordship proceeded to argue at some length that whether as regarded its being any security to the Church, or the fact that the declaration was in practice seldom if ever made, the law had become obsolete. But it was said that this declaration was a badge or symbol of the predominance of the Established Church; and it was also said that this bill came from the Liberation Society.

As to the predominance of the Church, surely there were symbols enough of that in the facts that clergymen of the Church enjoyed securities and privileges by law in every parish of England, that the bishops had seats in that House, and that the Sovereign must be a

member of the Established Church. And as for the Liberation Society, he was not in the secrets of that society; but if their object were to separate Church and State—if the members of that society were the crafty and dangerous assassins which they were said to be—he could not conceive that they could desire anything better than that the friends of the Church should maintain a small irritating grievance which would enable them to draw over many persons to side with them who otherwise would stand aloof. (Hear, hear.) Whatever the opinions of that society might be, he was convinced there were many Dissenters in this country who while differing from the formularies of the Church still regarded her with respect as the centre around which Protestants of various kinds were gathered. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of DERBY, in the absence, from illness, of the Duke of Buckingham, moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. After quoting former opinions of Lord Russell and of the late Lord Holland, both partial to Dissenters, in favour of the declaration, his lordship referred to the statement of Lord Wodehouse that the declaration gave no additional security to the Church.

I very much agree with the noble lord in thinking that, practically, this declaration does not give any great security to the Church of England, and that if the Church could not stand without the assistance of this declaration there would be very little chance of its standing by the aid of this declaration. (Cheers.) But that is a very different thing from the question whether the Legislature ought to be called upon to repeal the declaration. (Hear.) The noble lord stated that Ministers of the Crown were relieved by the Act of Indemnity from the consequences of omitting to take this declaration, but that a certain number of persons holding municipal offices were compelled to make the declaration, and that it was a great hardship to call upon them to declare, on accepting office, that they would not use any power or influence they might possess for the injury of the Established Church of the realm. But if that is indeed felt as a hardship, why is it that those who contended for the rights of the Dissenters, when this declaration was imposed, declared that it was a grievance of which no one had a right to complain? But although the declaration may give no valid security to the Church, yet its repeal by Parliament would be a very significant declaration that the Church of England stands in no different position from that of other sects, and that it is not an integral part of the institutions of the country. (Hear, hear.) Now, I will put a possible case. Suppose that in the other House of Parliament the oath of allegiance now required to be taken by every member of that House were only required to be taken at some indefinite period of the Session, and that at the close of the Session an Act of Indemnity were passed, enacting that any member of that House who in the course of the Session had omitted to take that oath should be exempt from the consequences of the omission. Suppose also that a very large number of persons in that House openly avowed their intention to take every legitimate means of subverting the monarchy, and substituting a republican form of government. Suppose, too, that the persons who avowed these designs were to introduce a bill to do away with the necessity of taking the oath of allegiance; will any one tell me, although the oath may perhaps give no additional security to the Throne, that the repeal of the oath by Parliament would not be a most significant intimation of the views of the party bringing in such a bill, and that a great outrage would not be inflicted on the loyal feelings of those who were attached to the Throne? (Hear, hear.) I put the case with respect to the Church no higher than that of the Throne, but I put it as high, and I say that while a large number of persons are banded together with the positive determination to bring down the Church to the level of other denominations, to do away with its rights and privileges, and to abolish its temporal existence, I say that a declaration on the part of Parliament that it is no longer necessary that this promise not to injure the Established Church should be taken by every person holding high office would give a very important sanction and encouragement to those persons. (Cheers.) My lords, I am not one of those who are inclined to support the continuance of any grievance of which any class of my fellow-subjects have a legitimate right to complain. I am prepared to defend the rights of the Church of England whenever they may be infringed, but I can never allow that a frank acknowledgment and concession of rights to others can injure the Church of which I am an attached member. But in this case there is no real or tangible ground of grievance, but only a ground of complaint made subservient to a political agitation. (Cheers.) This bill has been five times sent up by the House of Commons; it has been four times rejected by your Lordships; and this year it comes up with an overwhelming and overpowering majority of three in a small House. (A laugh.) If your Lordships should sanction this bill it would indicate a change in the spirit of this House which has, I hope, not taken place—a determination to go back from those principles which your Lordships have formerly asserted—and the absence of any firm resolve on your Lordships' part to maintain intact the rights, privileges, and predominance of that Church which forms an integral part of the British Constitution. (Cheers.)

Lord LYTTLETON expressed his intention of voting in favour of a just and harmless modification of the law. But if the proposal were defeated, as no doubt it would be, and if that and similar measures continued to pass through the House of Commons by majorities hardly perceptible, the gentlemen commonly called "political Dissenters," and their friends in and out of the other House of Parliament, had only themselves to thank for these results. They would never attain the favourable consideration of their Lordships' House as long as they continued frankly and honestly to declare that they would not thank them for passing such measures; that they were not to be looked upon as concessions, but as very insufficient instalments of much larger claims, and they would be content with nothing but the dissolution of the connection between the State and the Established Church. He was not speaking of any danger to the Church; on the contrary, he thought the Liberation Society and the speeches and writings of its adherents had rendered the same kind of services to the Established Church which Mr. Bright's

speeches had done to the party of the noble earl opposite. (Cheers and laughter.) Whether those opinions had any chance of success it was for the gentlemen to whom he had referred to judge; he was merely dealing with the question of expediency. Measures such as the present never would pass unless those gentlemen, whatever their private views might be, would be content to withhold the expression of their opinions, and to acquiesce in the existence in its full privileges of that institution which very many believed to be the most important in this country. ("Hear," and cries of "Question.")

Strangers had been directed to withdraw, with a view to a division, when

Earl RUSSELL, advancing to the table, said the grievance was so small that the mover of the bill found a difficulty in describing it, while the noble earl found it impossible to show that the declaration gave any security to the Established Church.

But then it is said that there was a compact made at the time of the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, by which I and others who were associated me in that act are bound. I cannot recollect that that there was any such engagement or compact. I think, on the contrary, that after this declaration has existed for a considerable time, has been found not to give any security to the Established Church, and, in fact, to be utterly worthless—I really cannot see why Parliament should be bound not to part with it. (Hear, hear.) The act by which Dissenters were called on to take the sacrament in accordance with the service of the Church of England was a very substantial grievance, and objectionable on two grounds—it was a profanation as regards the sacrament and a hardship upon the Dissenters. (Hear, hear.) But when a declaration was substituted for that solemn act, it was merely to the effect that the person taking the declaration should not use the influence of his office in order to injure the Church of England. Under the terms of that declaration it is difficult to define what would be such an injury. A man is not debarred from being, if he chooses, an enemy of the Church of England; what he is debarred from is using the influence of his office in a sense hostile to that Church. It then becomes a question how that influence is to be applied. A Dissenter may be elected Lord Mayor of London, and every one knows that by virtue of that office he would have considerable influence in the election of members for the city. He may declare that he himself wishes to come into Parliament to abolish Church-rates. If he uses the influence of his office to get into Parliament, does he thereby use the influence of his office to the injury of the Church of England? (Hear, hear.) I know that persons who are fond of these acts think there is some virtue in imposing a disagreeable declaration—something which is unpleasant to those who have to take it; and they proceed to argue that persons holding such exceedingly wrong opinions ought to be obliged to pay some penalty in the shape of the annoyance consequent upon being called on to make a declaration to which they object. But that is not the spirit in which Parliament should regard the subject. (Hear, hear.) The point we have to consider is what is really important for the benefit of the Church of England. The rights and property of that Church are secured by various Acts of Parliament, and further by the general attachment of the people of this country. These are securities on which the Church may rest; these are safeguards in which it may trust for its permanence. It gains nothing at all by having such useless and vague resolutions as these. I therefore think the time has come when they may safely be abolished. (Cheers.)

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH contended that the declaration was in the nature of a compact, and that it materially facilitated the passage of the Test and Corporation Act, but he regretted that, notwithstanding all the concessions which the Church had made, peace it had not, and apparently never was to be allowed to have.

Every concession, be it what it may, seems to stimulate its opponents to further attacks upon it, and although I believe that the Church, if it be true to itself, if it be not exposed to greater dangers from within than from without, will successfully resist all these attacks, I do think that the time has come when we must adhere to that which was considered sound policy thirty-five years ago. Whether this declaration gives a real security or not, it is at least an indication of the opinion of Parliament with respect to the permanence and inviolable maintenance of the Church of England, and as such I support its continuance. (Hear, hear.)

Earl GRANVILLE said that as to the interference with the preamble of the Test Act, he could only say that he did not see that it was touched or repealed by the present bill. The enacting clause did not refer to it, but merely relieved those persons from the grievance under which they felt that they suffered.

Whatever may be the result of this debate, whether we are in a majority or a minority, we shall have the satisfaction of having endeavoured to do an act which is perfectly just and fair, and which cannot in the slightest degree affect the real security of the Established Church. (Hear, hear.)

Their Lordships then divided, when the numbers were—

Contents 52

Non-contents 69

Majority against the second reading —17

The other orders of the day having been disposed of, the House adjourned at a quarter to seven o'clock.

THE MAIL-BAG QUESTION.

On Monday, Earl RUSSELL gave his promised reply in reference to the opening of mail-bags found on board vessels captured by the Federal cruisers. He stated that Mr. Archibald, the British consul at New York, had been required by the prize-commissioners to open the mail-bag found on board the Peterhoff. He refused, whereupon the commissioners opened it, and found several parcels addressed to Matamoros. Subsequently they required Mr. Archibald to open them; he declined, but offered, if the prize-commissioners chose to open the parcels, to

remain as a witness to what was done. The parcels were not, however, opened. Lord Lyons had seen Mr. Seward in reference to the matter, and had complained that the treatment of the mail-bags was contrary to the order issued last year to the naval commanders in the Federal service. Mr. Seward had telegraphed that the parcels were not to be opened at present, and the Government of the United States had come to no definite conclusion on the subject. Meantime the matter was under the consideration of the law-officers of the Crown, and as the English Government would have to communicate with that of the United States on the subject, he would defer stating at present what were the opinions of the law-officers.

Several measures were subsequently advanced a stage, and their Lordships adjourned shortly before seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday the Innkeepers' Liability Bill was, after some discussion, read a second time, as were also the Elections during the Recess Bill and the Borough Residence Uniform Measurement Bill. With regard to the latter measure a division took place, the second reading being carried by 171 votes to 135. The latter appears to be an Opposition measure, and proposes that the seven-mile distance for non-resident voters should in all cases be measured from any part of the borough. The Tories appeared to be highly delighted with their success.

MARRIAGES, &c. (IRELAND), BILL.

On the motion of Sir E. GROGAN, the House went into committee on this bill. Clause 1 was agreed to.

Upon clause 2, Mr. BUTT suggested that greater security should be taken to have proper notices of intended marriages. The only protection against clandestine marriages was contained in this clause, which required that parties about to be married should state to the registrar the name of the church, chapel, or registered place of worship which they usually attended, and that the registrar should send a notice to the minister of the church, chapel, or place of worship so named. Sir H. CAIRNS said that a system of things had grown up in Ireland which made it impossible to extend exactly the same rule to Ireland as to England. The Presbyterians had the advantage given to them of being able to marry by their own ministers, but this privilege was not extended to any other denomination of Dissenters from the Established Church. This was a state of things which the Dissenters of Ireland could hardly be content with. He quite agreed that if sufficient security were not taken in the bill on these points it would be necessary to take it by some additional words. Mr. DAWSON said there was nobody in the North of Ireland more desirous of seeing the marriage-law of Ireland put on a clear and intelligible footing than the members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. MACDONOUGH pointed out that the bill contained sufficient provisions to prevent clandestine marriages, and it had met with the complete approval of the Wesleyans and Independent congregations of Ireland. Mr. BUTT still contended that it would have been better to embody the English declaration entire. Sir E. GROGAN said he had no other wish than to make the securities as stringent as possible.

Mr. WHITESIDE inquired whether the bill was intended to apply to marriages of members of the Established Church duly solemnised in church. Sir E. GROGAN replied in the negative. Clause No. 2 was then agreed to after a verbal addition.

Clauses 3, 4, and 5 were also agreed to.

On clause 6, Mr. BUTT objected to the word "ordained" before "clergyman," on the ground that if it were retained, questions might be raised as to the validity of the marriage, founded on the validity of the ordination of the officiating clergyman. Sir E. GROGAN said the word "ordained" had been used at the request of the Dissenting bodies to whom the bill was to apply, as there were two classes of clergymen belonging to these denominations. After a short conversation the word "ordained" was struck out.

Clause No. 6 was then agreed to.

The remaining clauses, except clauses 11 and 12, which were omitted, were agreed to with some verbal amendments.

THE THRONE OF GREECE.

In answer to Mr. B. COCHRANE, Lord PALMERSTON said there was every reason to believe that it was arranged that Prince William of Denmark would accept the crown of Greece. As to the British Government guaranteeing a loan to Greece, that was a matter on which he could not at present give an answer.

FEDERAL CRUISERS AND BRITISH SHIPPING.

Lord PALMERSTON, who had a notice on the paper to move in committee of supply for a grant for the completion of the memorial to the Prince Consort, appealed to members who had preliminary notices of motion on the paper not to press them. They appeared disposed to yield; but Mr. ROEBUCK, who had no notice on the paper, insisted on asking what course the Government intended to pursue in reference to the proceedings of Admiral Wilkes. Before he had put the question he was called to order by Mr. KNIGHTLEY. The House, however, evidently wished that the question should be asked, whereupon Mr. Knightley sat down. Lord PALMERSTON rose at the moment, and expressed his willingness to answer the question, but Mr. ROEBUCK was not to be stopped in his speech, and said he "was too old to be taken in" by the noble lord "in that way." He then spoke as follows:—

Sir, when the American war broke out, I may say, the large majority of the English people felt a shock of

opinion in regard to the quarrel between the various States of America. (Hear, hear.) I may say for myself that that shock was of a very strong character, for all my early notions were that in America a great experiment was being made in Government. I thought they had entered on that experiment in a way that mankind had never done before, and that fortune would prevail in their favour, for they were worthy of governing themselves. When the news came, and that great experiment was at an end—for it is at an end—(Hear, hear)—my heart failed me, for then I was compelled to acknowledge that men, under the most favourable circumstances, had proved themselves unworthy of governing themselves. That was my feeling at that time, and my feeling was in favour of the North. Time went on, and their whole conduct was such as proved them not only unfit for the government of themselves, but unfit for the courtesies and the community of the civilised world. ("Oh! oh!" and cheers.) Oh! yes, Sir, I know there are degenerate Englishmen—who take the part of the North against their own country—(cheers)—and whenever matters come into collision between America and England their voice is raised on the side of America. (Cheers, and "Oh! oh!") I can perfectly understand—I am very glad to find that what I say touches the hon. gentlemen opposite. It appears that the question of which I have given notice creates a great sensation among them. (Hear, hear.) Well, Sir, the conduct of the North American dis-United States has been such as is humiliating to the people of England. (Cheers.) The noble lord has shown himself hitherto a friend of the honour, the dignity, and the prosperity of England. He never showed that more than in his conduct as the head of the Administration in the circumstances connected with the Trent. (Cheers.) We have been subject to every species of violent language—(cheers)—not of insinuation, but of accusation. We were threatened with war, and King Cotton was to crush us; he has tried his power, and King Cotton has failed. We resented an act insolent and overbearing; we called them to account, and they truckled in their answer. (Cheers.) Another outrage has taken place, and by the same man who perpetrated the insult offered to our flag in the case of the Trent. A vessel leaves the English shore; the hon. member for London, opposite (Mr. Crawford), says he has seen her papers, and they are perfectly harmless. She was bound to a neutral port. (Cheers.) She was seized by an American man-of-war, taken into an American port, and the expectations of the English merchant in his honourable trade have been utterly destroyed by the conduct of the American Government. I say that conduct of the American Government you ought to resent. (Cheers.) But not only was this done, there were persons calling themselves English merchants who applied to the American Minister for a permit to allow their ship to proceed in safety to its destination. That permit is granted, and why? Because that ship carried out arms to the Mexicans, to be used against our ally, France. (Cheers.) Since then, other men calling themselves English merchants have applied to the same authority for the same permit. They have been refused, because they are Englishmen, and because they are not carrying out arms to aid the Mexicans in the war, though they were trading to the same port. (Cheers.) The permit, I repeat, was refused, and now I must say that Mr. Adams, the American Minister, is the Minister for Commerce in England. (Loud cheers.) Sir, I would put it to the noble lord, the man who has hitherto shown himself alive to the dignity and honour of England,—I would ask him whether the Government of which he is the head has come to any determination in this matter, and if they have, whether he is able to tell Parliament what that determination is. Sir, I know the consequences of the action he may take. It may lead to war, and I, speaking here for the English people, am prepared for war. (Loud cheers, and "Oh! oh!") I know that language will strike the heart of the Peace party in this country, but it will also strike the hearts of the insolent people who govern America; and we shall have justice done to the honour and dignity of England, and the commerce of this country will no longer be subject to the sneering insolence of an upstart race. (Cheers.) The question I have to ask the noble lord is, whether the Government of which he is the head have formed any determination with regard to the conduct of Admiral Wilkes, whether they have addressed any remonstrance to the American Government, and whether he is prepared now to state the course the Government have determined to pursue. (Hear, hear.)

Viscount PALMERSTON: The House will have seen and understood from what has fallen from my hon. and learned friend that the matter to which his question relates is one of the greatest possible importance. All I can say is that it is receiving due consideration on the part of her Majesty's Government, but I am not prepared at present to state what result her Majesty's Government may come to. (Cheers.)

Subsequently Mr. BENTINCK, who had a notice on the paper in reference to the seizure of vessels by the Federal cruisers, in bringing it forward severely censured the conduct of Mr. Roebuck in forestalling a motion of considerable importance by making it the subject of a question. This was not altogether in accordance with the usual spotless character of the hon. and learned gentleman. Mr. ROEBUCK took exception to these words, whereupon Mr. BENTINCK said he was ready to give up the grounds upon which he had used them. Mr. ROEBUCK did not want the grounds, he said, and he appealed to the Speaker in the matter. The SPEAKER called on Mr. Bentinck to withdraw the words, which he partially did, saying that if the hon. member objected to them he was ready fully to explain them. Mr. ROEBUCK again declared he did not want explanation, when Mr. BENTINCK told him that in declining it he had exercised a wise discretion. Mr. Bentinck then went on to criticise the conduct of the Government in respect to the Sea Queen and other vessels, and commented on the conduct of Mr. Adams, the American Minister, in giving a certificate to a British ship. Mr. PEACOCKE gave an account of the manner in which the certificate had been given.

Mr. CRAWFORD said that reference had been made to the part which it was his duty to take respecting the Peterhoff, but though he should be quite ready to

join in the discussion under proper circumstances and at the proper time, he declined altogether to do so at the present moment. (Cheers.) He had heard with the greatest distaste, and almost with disgust, the remarks made by the hon. and learned gentleman (Mr. Roebuck)—(cheers)—nor could he admire the taste of the hon. member (Mr. Bentinck) in entering into this subject after the statement of the noble lord. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. PEACOCKE moved an amendment for the production of all the official correspondence relating to the matter.

Mr. NEWDEGATE expressed his regret at the language of Mr. Roebuck.

Mr. LAYARD deprecated a continuance of the discussion, and hoped the House had confidence enough in the noble lord to leave the question in his hands. With respect to the conveyance of the mails, the question had not been fairly represented. The merchants had requested that a mail-agent should be placed on board vessels conveying mails to Mexico, or that they should be relieved of the obligation of carrying them, lest they should be liable to be seized from having hostile correspondence in the mails. In compliance, the Government had relieved them of the obligation.

Sir H. CAIRNS asked if it was to be understood that vessels carrying mails to a neutral port were to be regarded as liable to seizure on account of the correspondence in the mails?

Mr. MALINS, in common with all Englishmen, was humiliated at the unaccountable timidity of the Government in not maintaining the rights of English merchants and protecting English vessels in their legitimate trade.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL referred to the despatches of Lord Russell to Lord Lyons, to show that while her Majesty's Government did not wish to dispute the belligerent rights of the United States, they could not permit any interference with British or foreign vessels in British waters, and while each case must be judged on its own merits, they could not allow British vessels on the high seas to be molested on the pretence of carrying contraband of war, unless actually engaged in violating the blockade. If Mr. Seward issued orders in accordance with the understanding then arrived at, and if his orders were disregarded, they must presume that it was not with the knowledge of the American Government. Their interpretation of the law was the same as that of her Majesty's Government.

Lord R. CECIL said that the Solicitor-General's explanation would be very satisfactory if it was carried out in practice. These outrages had been going on since June last, and no steps were yet taken to put a stop to them. What was the use of Mr. Seward making professions one day if he violated them the next, and sent Admiral Wilkes—an officer notorious for his hatred to England—to a most delicate post? The case of the Dolphin was even worse than that of the Peterhoff; but at the present rate of despatch on the part of the Government it would be a few years before the wrong was redressed. He admired the gallant speech of the hon. member for Sheffield, and it was worthy of an Englishman. But three weeks ago the noble lord at the head of the Government used equally brave words, and although he was loudly cheered by that side of the House, he (Lord R. Cecil) had his misgivings, and he found these brave words were only a mask to a cringing policy. (Cries of "Oh, oh!" and cheers.) With all his respect to Lord Palmerston, they knew historically he had appeared in two characters.

There is the Lord Palmerston of the Russian and Chinese wars, the Lord Palmerston who lords it over Greece and Brazil, but there is also the Lord Palmerston who introduced the Conspiracy Bill. We wish to know which of these two characters the noble lord intends to fill on the present occasion. The country waits anxiously for his decision, and I can assure him the country expects it immediately. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BERNAL OSBORNE sarcastically commented on the speeches of the two warlike lawyers—Mr. Malins and Mr. Roebuck. He strongly deprecated the discussion.

If at such a time as this we are to go on reviewing American institutions, inflaming the American Government, and casting out taunts as to cases in respect to which we have not yet the papers to inform us, I do not see how any Government can prevent our being plunged into a war. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I am no degenerate Englishman, no member of the Peace party, but as an independent member of Parliament I do not think I risk the respect or the dignity due to that position by disclaiming altogether the sentiments uttered by my hon. friend the member for Sheffield, and asking the House to drop this discussion and proceed to the business into which we ought to have gone long before. We all have confidence in the noble lord as a War Minister. Leave the matter in his hands, and do not let us precipitate a question which may assume unusual proportions. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. PEACOCKE consented, as the papers were to be produced, to withdraw his amendment.

THE PRINCE CONSORT MEMORIAL.

In committee of supply, Lord PALMERSTON moved a grant of 50,000*l.* towards the erection of a suitable memorial to the late Prince Consort. He stated that it was the intention of the Government from the first not to leave the carrying out of such an object solely to private contributions, which were voluntarily raised, but to ask a grant from Parliament, so as to give the memorial a national aspect. Between 50,000*l.* and 60,000*l.* had been subscribed, and it had been decided to abandon part of the plan for a memorial, namely, the erection of a Hall of Science and Art, and to confine it to what might be called a personal memorial of the Prince; such a monument would be placed in Hyde-park. He be-

lieved the House would be a true exponent of the feeling of the country in contributing to this memorial, and, at the same time, do adequate honour to the late Prince Consort, and be soothing to the feelings of the Sovereign to whom that House and country were so dutifully and loyally attached. (Loud cheers.)

After some discussion, in the course of which Mr. DISRAELI said he thought the Government had taken a judicious and well-considered course in the matter, the vote was agreed to.

Lord PALMERSTON then moved a resolution voting a sum of 85,000*l.* for goods and stores captured by our troops at Kertch and Yenikale, which had been applied to the public service, to be distributed among the two services present at the capture.

THE BUDGET.

On going into committee of ways and means, Mr. ROEBUCK moved that in the opinion of the House the income-tax imposed on precarious incomes should be lower than that imposed on permanent incomes. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER argued that the principle of equality was one which, though not perfect, was applicable to the income-tax; and any attempt to alter that principle with a view to remove anomalies in the incidents of the tax would only produce other anomalies. The subject was discussed by Mr. MALINS and Mr. BASS, and the motion was withdrawn. Mr. HUBBARD made some general observations on the Budget, especially dwelling on the income-tax, its inequalities, and the fraudulent practices connected with it.

The House having gone into committee of ways and means, a resolution reducing the duty on tea to 1*s.* per pound was agreed to.

On the second resolution continuing the present sugar-duties, Mr. LINDSAY entered into the general question, urging the abolition of the differential duties, and the adoption of one uniform duty. After discussion the resolution was agreed to.

The resolution imposing the income-tax at 7*d.* in the pound was next discussed and agreed to.

The other resolutions were postponed, and the House resumed at twenty-five minutes past one.

RESISTANCE OF NEUTRAL SHIPS.

On Friday, in answer to Lord A. Churchill, the SOLICITOR-GENERAL said that merchant-ships, in the prosecution of a voyage between neutral ports, would not be legally justified in defending themselves by the use of arms from capture by the cruisers of the Federal States of America; but their doing so would render them liable to condemnation in a prize-court.

SMALL-POX AND VACCINATION.

Lord NAAS asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether the attention of the Government had been drawn to the increase of small-pox in the metropolis; and whether it was his intention to propose during the present session any measure for the promotion of vaccination.

Mr. LOWE said the misfortune of the question of vaccination was that in quiet times no trouble was taken about it, and it was only when disease appeared in all its horrors that applications were made to the Government for legislation, which, if ever so good in itself, must then be tardy and inefficient to meet the evil. The subject had engrossed the attention of the Government. The House was aware that there was already in existence a measure for compulsory vaccination. That measure was not in all respects satisfactory; but the fault connected with the present spread of small-pox was not so much attributable to the state of the law as to the neglect of the local authorities on whom devolved the working of it. The matter, however, was still under the consideration of the Government, but no decision had yet been come to.

AMALGAMATION OF THE LONDON POLICE.

Mr. HENLEY gave notice that whenever the second reading of the bill for the Amalgamation of the City and Metropolitan Police was proposed, he would move that the bill be read the second time that day six months. (Hear, hear.)

THE GLASGOW MURDER.

Mr. STIRLING called attention to the case of Jessie M'Intosh or MacLachlan, who was convicted of murder at the Circuit Court at Glasgow in September, 1862, stating the details of the case and of the trial, which had, he said, strongly excited the public mind. He adverted to the subsequent proceedings adopted with a view of invoking the mercy of the Crown on behalf of the convict, and which resulted in a commutation of the capital sentence, commenting upon the nature of those proceedings and upon the course taken by the Home Secretary in the matter, which left, he said, a stigma upon Mr. Fleming. He asked for copies of the proceedings at the trial and of the evidence taken at the subsequent inquiry before Mr. Young.

Sir G. GREY admitted that the verdict of the jury was right; that, upon the evidence before them, they could have returned no other; but facts subsequently came out which, if they had been laid before the jury, might have led to a different result, and the impression made upon his mind thereby was that the capital sentence ought not to be carried into effect. He vindicated the course he had taken, in conjunction with the Lord Advocate, in the proceedings subsequent to the trial. He was unwilling to produce the papers asked for only on account of the very inconvenient precedent their production would establish.

Further discussion followed, in the course of which the LORD ADVOCATE, in reply to a question, said his opinion was that a person who had been examined as a witness in support of a capital charge could not, by the law of Scotland, be afterwards put upon

his trial upon the same charge; an opinion, however, from which Mr. MURK, to a certain extent, dissented.

SEIZURE OF THE ALEXANDRA.

Mr. HORSFALL brought forward the case of the seizure of the Alexandra at Liverpool at the instance of the Government, on the charge that she was fitted out for the service of the Confederate States of America. Her owners denied that she was so destined, and he (Mr. Horsfall) having examined the vessel himself, was of opinion that their statement was correct. He contended that the proceedings had been taken by the Government, not on evidence such as was necessary under the Foreign Enlistment Act, but on mere suspicion and information from a Foreign Minister. It was shown that while batteries of guns complete might be furnished to the Federal States on the order of one of their generals, a vessel was not to be built and equipped because by possibility she might some day become the property of the Confederates. Large quantities of arms had been shipped at Liverpool for the Federals, and no step had been taken to intercept them. Besides, numbers of men were sent from Ireland for service in the Federal armies. In order to preserve strict neutrality both these proceedings should be prevented, as well as the equipment of vessels. He asked for papers on the subject of his motion.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL urged that the seizure of the Alexandra had been made on the deliberate advice of responsible counsellors of the Government, founded upon evidence satisfactory to them; and he contended that it would interfere with the course of legal proceedings to give the papers and information asked for. As to the shipment of arms, that was no violation of the Foreign Enlistment Act, nor could the Government interfere to stop the traffic. As to the shipping of recruits for service in America, that did come within the act, and if the Government was furnished with evidence, measures would be taken to prevent such enlistments.

After some remarks from Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Collier, and Sir H. Cairns,

Mr. CORDEN drew attention to the motives of national self-interest and the obligations of implied international engagements by which the British Government is called upon for a vigilant and rigid enforcement of those provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act, 39 Geo. 3 c. 60, sec. 8, which forbid the furnishing of ships of war to a belligerent Power to be employed against another Power with which this country is at peace. He urged that there was no law to prevent the subjects of one country exporting arms and munitions of war to another, but they did it at the peril of being seized by the cruisers of the other country; and if this was being done wholesale by this country in respect to America—if one or two mistakes were made in seizing innocent ships, the Federals were entitled to some tolerance from us. In reference to the general subject, he argued that the Americans had always based their legislation on the principle of preserving neutrality, and principally, if not altogether, at the instance of England; and he denied that there ever occurred an act involving a breach of neutrality which was left unredressed under their Foreign Enlistment Act; and he hoped that this country would reciprocate now such friendly conduct. He contended that we were as much bound in honour to America by a friendly reciprocity as we could be by actual treaty. It would not, however, be a fulfilment of that obligation, or a due observance of neutrality, to give aid and assistance to both parties. Considering the immense British property always afloat on the seas, it was the deepest interest of this country so to act on principles of reciprocal neutrality as to secure the certainty of their observance by America, in case of our being ourselves belligerent with other nations.

Mr. HORSFALL was of opinion that if we drifted into a war, whilst this country did not desire war, and war was not the interest of America, it would be the fault of the House of Commons in not doing its duty. He held on the whole the course pursued by the Government had been such as to preserve the neutrality in the war in America which this country desired. He urged that the course of events in America showed that secession was an accomplished fact, and that this country had shown patience and forbearance enough from an aggressive federation which was seeking to drive us into war. The hon. gentleman drew a vivid picture of the condition, military and social and politico-economic, of the Northern and Southern Federations—giving a decided and emphatic preference to the latter, and bitterly criticising the former.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL stated that it had always been, as it was now, the intention of the Government, upon due evidence, to enforce the municipal law of this country, which had been engrafted on international law; but at the same time they could not strain our law or enact new laws to meet particular cases which it was alleged were breaches of neutrality. As to the case of the Alexandra, everything had been done according to law. He urged that this country was not to be blamed for breaches of neutrality which could not have been prevented by the action of our law, and still less for acts on the high seas far beyond our jurisdiction.

Mr. M. MILNES denounced the speech of Mr. Horsfall as unjust and unpatriotic, and urged a more decided neutrality on our part than was evinced in our allowing the Confederates to obtain a navy from our ports which they would not otherwise possess.

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer to Sir F. Kelly, said the security of our merchant vessels was in the law of nations, observed by America, and as to the security of mails carried by them arrangements were made by

which the letters would be under the protection of the British consuls.

THE PRINCE CONSORT MEMORIAL.

On the report of supply, Mr. CONINGHAM moved to postpone the vote for the memorial of the Prince Consort until it was ascertained what its exact cost would be. Lord PALMERSTON said no particular plan had been quite decided on, and the question of the exact cost was no reason for postponing the vote.

The motion was eventually withdrawn.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, Mr. FERRAND moved at great length that it is the opinion of the House that it is the duty of the Government to take into consideration without delay what measures may be necessary to relieve the distress which prevails in the cotton-manufacturing districts, so that the people may no longer continue unemployed.

Mr. POTTER moved an amendment to the effect that a royal commission be appointed to inquire into the present state of the cotton-manufacturing districts, and to report on the best mode of relieving the distress therein.

Mr. VILLIERS said that both Mr. Ferrand and Mr. Potter seemed to think that the emigration of the unemployed operatives should be aided by the Government; but, though they would not throw any obstacle in the way of emigration, the Government should not propose or urge it. That was a state of things to which we had not come. He suggested that there was scope for the employment of a large number of people in this country in the drainage and improvement of land, and he read statements from persons of great experience to that effect. Public works in towns had likewise been recommended, and money might be readily raised for such objects, which had been postponed in some places because labour had been dear. Under these circumstances, the Government had determined to send down a very competent person accompanied by engineers and surveyors, to inquire what works might be accomplished and in what way they could be commenced at once. This inquiry could not last more than three weeks.

Colonel PATTEN stated the condition of the relief funds. The total amount of the receipts (including 680,000*l.* from the poor-rate) was 2,735,000*l.*, of which 1,400,000*l.* had been contributed by Lancashire alone. The Relief Committees had only a sum of 755,000*l.* in hand, which would not last for a very long period; and he rejoiced at the step taken by the Government, not doubting that most useful information would be thereby obtained. He recommended that both the motion and the amendment should be withdrawn.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Hibbert, Major Edwards, Mr. A. Egerton, Lord E. Howard, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Newdegate, and Mr. Maguire, after which Mr. Potter withdrew his amendment, and Mr. Ferrand his motion.

THE BUDGET RESOLUTIONS.

In committee of ways and means, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution relating to an item of the budget, namely, that imposing a license on the sale of wines, beer, spirits, and tobacco in clubs, on which an animated discussion took place, followed by a division, when the resolution was carried by 143 to 111.

The resolutions relating to the publicans' beer license, and the beer-dealers' additional license, stage-carriages, sugar, and excise occasional license for the conveyance of passengers at separate fares, followed, and were agreed to, and the House resumed.

The Savings-banks Bill was read a second time.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Princess Louis of Hesse attended at the private chapel, Windsor, on Sunday morning, when the service appointed for the churchoing of women was performed by the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor. The Queen and Prince Louis of Hesse were also present.

The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Louis of Hesse, Prince Alfred, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, Prince Alexander and Prince Henry of Hesse, the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel. Subsequently the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor preached the sermon.

On Tuesday afternoon, her Majesty, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, drove to the Windsor Royal Infirmary to attend the death-bed of a very old and valued servant, who had been for some time an inmate of the establishment.

On the 13th of May, the Prince of Wales will hold a levée, and on the 16th, the Princess a Drawing-room, at St. James's Palace on behalf of the Queen.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will honour Oxford with a visit during the next grand commemoration, when the University will confer the degree of D.C.L. on his Royal Highness, who will, with the Princess of Wales, arrive in Oxford on Tuesday, June 23, and return on the following Thursday morning.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Prince Alfred, and the Prince of Hesse visited the exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water Colours on Friday, previous to its being opened to the public.

Amongst the visitors at Windsor Castle during the week, have been the Duchess of Wellington, Sir

C. Wood, Earl Russell, Mr. Disraeli, and Rear-Admiral Seymour.

The infant daughter of the Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse was christened on Monday in the Green Drawing-room at Windsor Castle. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. M. Bender, Court Chaplain to the Grand Ducal family of Hesse. The ceremony was performed in German, and according to the rites of the Lutheran Church. The child was named by the Queen, who held it at the font, Victoria Alberta Elizabeth Matilda Mary. A most distinguished party was present. The water used for the baptism was brought from the Jordan by the Prince of Wales.

It is officially announced that her Majesty's birthday will be celebrated on Saturday, the 6th of June next.

Sir John Bowring is (says the *Devon Weekly Times*) appointed by the Government as one of the envoys to attend the approaching Conference at Paris with reference to the postal system.

Her Majesty, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse, and the junior members of the Royal family, will leave Windsor Castle for Osborne either on Thursday or Friday next. The Prince and Princess of Wales will remain in town during the months of May and June. — *Court Journal*.

There has been a rumour at Portsmouth during the past week that the iron-clad squadron at present in commission is about to be despatched to Bermuda to strengthen the squadron under the command of Vice-Admiral Milne. There appears, however, to be several reasons why this course should not be adopted. — *Times*.

Miscellaneous News.

DEPARTURE OF THE SEA QUEEN.—The steamship *Sea Queen*, the subject of the discussion in the House of Lords on Thursday night, has left for Matamoras with mails, and a cargo of merchandise. She takes out twelve passengers.

THE RADNOR BOROUGH.—The election of a member for New Radnor, in the room of the late Sir G. C. Lewis, took place on Saturday. There was only one candidate, Mr. R. G. Price, who professed himself a Liberal-Conservative, intending to support Lord Palmerston. The election passed off without any noteworthy incident.

A NARROW ESCAPE.—Mr. Glaisher, in his latest scientific balloon-ascend, attained a height of four miles and a half. He ascended at the Crystal Palace, and descended at Newhaven, Sussex, within half a mile of the sea. The descent was made with prodigious rapidity during a gale of wind, and nothing but the energy of Mr. Coxwell, who accompanied Mr. Glaisher, prevented the party being "landed" on the ocean.

SMALL-POX IN LONDON.—The Lords of the Privy Council having had their attention drawn to the present very extensive prevalence of small-pox in London, have, through their medical officer, addressed a circular letter of advice on the subject to the boards of guardians of the thirty-six metropolitan unions and parishes, and are also employing a medical inspector for the purpose of personally communicating with the guardians of affected districts on the arrangements best suited for the emergency.

EMIGRATION.—On Wednesday, an important meeting was held at Willis's Rooms, for the purpose of promoting emigration to the colonies. Lord Lyttelton occupied the chair, and among the speakers were Lord Shaftesbury, the Bishop of Oxford, and Mr. Bazley, M.P. Special reference was made to the case of the Lancashire operatives, and it was urged that emigration from the counties of Lancaster and Chester would be beneficial alike to the mother country and to the colonies. The meeting was held under the auspices of the National Colonial Emigration Society, and an earnest appeal was made to the public to assist in furthering the objects of that association.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for the past month have been issued, and are again satisfactory, since, compared with the corresponding month of last year, they show an increase of 552,824*l.*, or nearly 6 per cent., in the declared value of our exportations. Compared with March, 1861, which was a rather active month, there is a decrease of about 6½ per cent. Our shipments of cotton goods have been only about 10 per cent. less in value than those of last year, but 35 per cent. less than those of March, 1861. Of arms and ammunition the total has been 102,050*l.* against 130,057*l.* in the corresponding month of last year, and 70,948*l.* in March, 1861.

SLAVERY AND THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.—The following ministers in this district have signed the excellent address in reply to the one sent by the seven hundred Protestant ministers of France, denouncing the "sum of all human villainies." We believe that many other clergymen and pastors who have been applied to will lose no time in adding their names:—Peter Reynolds, LL.B., W. T. McCormick, A.K.C., Edward Madeley, Charles Clarke, William Baker, M.A., James Kay Applebee, George Cheatle, Joseph Smith, M.A., Henry Boyden, M.A., Peter Sibree, Isaac Lord, T. M. Thorpe, James Pritchard, Henry John Heathcote, Henry W. Wakefield, W. F. Callaway, and J. T. Feaston. — *Birmingham Post*.

WINTER EVENING READINGS.—The second series of winter evening "readings" in connection with Horton-lane Chapel, Bradford, was brought to a close last Tuesday evening by an "Entertainment" given by the young men of the Mutual Improvement Society, assisted by the choir. The Rev. J. R. Campbell, D.D., presided, and the beautiful new Lecture-hall was well filled by members of the congregation and

their friends. The entertainment consisted of a number of glees, part songs, and solos, intermixed with recitations. A vote of thanks to those who had so kindly and willingly arranged and taken part in the evening's proceedings was proposed by the chairman, seconded by James Law, Esq., and carried by acclamation.

EXECUTIONS.—Joseph Brookes, the wretched man who was convicted of the murder of the policeman Davey, at Acton, was hung on Monday morning in front of Newgate. He made several statements since his conviction in reference to the crime with which he was charged. The last and probably the only true one was made when he was upon the scaffold with the rope round his neck, and the drop ready to fall. Then beckoning the jail ordinary to his side, he said that his was the hand that fired the fatal shot.—Two men, Duncan M'Phail and George Woods, who were convicted at the last Liverpool assizes of the murder of an old woman at Ribchester, were hung on Saturday morning. Not less than between 20,000 and 30,000 persons assembled to witness the execution. M'Phail had previously made a confession, in which he acknowledged that he was engaged in the robbery of the old woman, but denied that he had any active participation in the murder.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. APSLEY PELLATT.—The remains of the late Mr. Apsley Pellatt were removed on Friday morning from Balham, Surrey, to Staines Cemetery, where they were deposited in the family mausoleum. In accordance with the wishes of the deceased the funeral was most unostentatious. The deceased having represented the borough of Southwark in Parliament for six years, as a token of respect the principal tradesmen partially closed their establishments, and business was totally suspended at the glass factory, Holland-street, Blackfriars-road, of which he was the principal. On arriving at Staines the mournful procession was joined by a large number of the workmen of the firm of Messrs. Pellatt and the Phoenix Gasworks, Bankside, Southwark, of which company the deceased was a promoter and director, and by whom the cortege was accompanied to the place of interment, where the funeral service was performed in a most impressive manner by the Rev. Mr. Harper.

THE BANK OF OTAGO is about to be established to supply the want of banking accommodation consequent upon the increasing trade and the discovery of gold in Otago. The value of the gold exported in 1861 was 727,318*l.*; in 1862, 1,540,708*l.*; and the latest accounts show that the same rate of increase is fully maintained. Notwithstanding these facts there is but one bank specially established in New Zealand, and the only other banking facilities are derived from mere branches and agencies of institutions, whose chief business is in Australia, where their capital is mostly employed. Under these circumstances the Bank of Otago will supply a legitimate want of the colony, as the chief branch will be at Dunedin (Otago), and agencies will be established in all the settlements. The bank will transact all the usual legitimate banking business, and from the standing and experience of the gentlemen composing the direction, the Bank of Otago is fairly entitled to the favourable notice of the investing public.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—It is intended to inaugurate the new season on Friday next, the 1st of May, by a great Musical Festival, which shall revive the memory of the grand choral effects produced at the Handel Festivals. On this occasion Racine's dramatic poem, "Athalie," as set to music by Mendelssohn, will be performed on the most magnificent scale. The orchestra will comprise 196 violins and violas, 90 violoncellos and double basses, 20 harps, and an adequate number of wind instruments, and the entire band and chorus will consist of about 2,500 performers. Mr. Costa will conduct, and Mr. Phelps will recite Mr. Bartholomew's illustrative verses. The great success which attended the recent performance of "Athalie," by the Sacred Harmonic Society at Exeter Hall, has led to a confident belief that its effect, when given as now announced, will be exceedingly fine. Besides "Athalie," the overtures composed by M. Auber and M. Meyerbeer for the opening of the International Exhibition, will be performed on Friday next, and as the orchestra will be on the same scale of magnitude as at the opening of the Exhibition, it cannot be doubted that the effect of these great works in the properly constructed orchestra at the Crystal Palace, will be surpassingly fine.

A Cockney tourist met a Scottish lassie going barefoot towards Glasgow. "Lassie," said he, "I should like to know if all the people in these parts go barefoot?"—"Part on 'em do, and part on 'em mind their own business," was the rather settling reply.

COMPOUNDING WITH CONSCIENCE.—In Bishop Blomfield's life, it is related that when curate of Chesterford—which was on the high-road to Newmarket—he endeavoured to remove or mitigate the scandal of Sunday traffic occasioned by the Easter Monday races:—"When he returned as Vicar he renewed his remonstrances to the Jockey Club, which were now backed by his neighbour, the then Lord Braybrooke. The influential patrons of the turf were at first very unwilling to make any change. Bishop Howley addressed the Duke of York on the subject; but the Duke declined to alter his practice, and said that, though it was true he travelled to the races on Sunday, he always had a Bible and Prayer-book in the carriage! Eventually, however, the first day of the races was changed from Monday to Tuesday."

Literature.

MR. MACNAUGHT'S RETRACTION.*

Within little more than a year, a change from such distrust of the truth of Christianity as compels the renunciation of its ministry, to the formation of new and decided conviction as to its historic basis, to the adoption without reserve of its doctrines in all the peculiar forms of the so-called "Evangelical" party in the Church, and to the renewal of a purpose again to minister within the pale of the Establishment, is a momentous change indeed. Through such a change has Mr. Macnaught passed; and he has given an account of its intellectual process in a little volume on the "Evidences"—which we should have noticed earlier but for the necessity of giving all the space we could spare for religious controversy in our literary columns to the Colenso literature, just at the time Mr. Macnaught's work came to hand. Considering how decidedly Mr. Macnaught had taken up a rationalistic position in his work on "Inspiration," and that little more than twelve months ago, he sided with Mr. Wilson—one of the *Septem*—and read his sermons from his own pulpit, when that gentleman was prohibited from preaching in the diocese of Chester by the Bishop, and that soon afterwards he deliberately sacrificed the reputation, influence, and income he enjoyed as incumbent of St. Chrysostom's, Liverpool—it becomes very interesting to learn by what method so true-natured and accomplished a man has been brought to the renunciation of all that past, the confession of grievous error, and the identification of himself to a certain extent with the religious party that might well be supposed to have least attraction for him. When he was generally known only as the author of the loosest and most daring book on Inspiration that our day had seen, we could not but regard Mr. Macnaught as a sincere truth-seeker, new to speculation, unaccustomed to the depths of theology, and of a rash spirit. When he left St. Chrysostom's we admired him as an honest man, and worthy example for some who remained behind him. We therefore accept his retraction as that of an honest man,—we trust in him, without reservation, and welcome his return to faith with a feeling of something like personal friendship. But, we frankly confess, that it is very difficult to us to understand that a man, well-informed and earnest, who had really doubted, in the deepest sense, and privately concluded against the supernatural and the doctrinal in Christianity, could by-and-by come back to faith and certitude by the way of which Mr. Macnaught gives account. We accept all the Evidences he adduces, we share to the full his convictions, we sympathise with his feelings; but the whole intellectual process of his recovery is that merely which we expect to find in the simplest case of personal inquiry into Christian facts and truths,—that merely through which we should have thought Mr. Macnaught had passed carefully, again and again, before he fell into scepticism, rather than afterwards and as a curative. If Mr. Macnaught doubted and denied, having never considered the Evidences which now he finds complete and satisfying, could that only have been known, his scepticism would have been deprived of all its importance in the eyes of those who, as it was, ignorantly supposed that when such an honest man abandoned his Christian post he must have proved conclusively the foundations to be worthless, and therefore the position untenable. Now, it turns out that the Evidences—just those precisely and alone—which we have so long known from Lardner, Paley, Chalmers, and numerous writers on the character of Christ as an argument for Christianity, are those which have turned back the stream of Mr. Macnaught's religious life;—the Evidences, that is to say, with which others were satisfied and preserved from doubt, though they thereby became the objects of the contempt of such as claimed Mr. Macnaught as friend and leader, who, thinking there is something superior in mere doubt, assumed to treat the common historical and moral evidences as long since riddled and torn beyond repair. But if Mr. Macnaught, before falling into scepticism, really had weighed anxiously and solemnly the Evidences on which he now himself relies, the new power of conviction which they have gained to his mind—nothing less in this case than transformation from supposed irrelevancy and worthlessness to now acknowledged demonstration and brilliant impressiveness—must be due to a change in his own moral attitude towards these Evidences, and to a new appreciation of the things themselves which these Evidences support. Without intrusively putting interpretations on certain

passages of his narrative, this seems to us to have been actually the case.

It is acknowledged by Mr. Macnaught that the reasons assigned by him to his congregation for resigning the ministry were incomplete; and that a vague reference to "other points" was purposely adopted to cover the melancholy truth that "the incarnation, the atonement, the resurrection, and all the miracles had become matters of scepticism, if not of positive disbelief"; but that he refrained from saying more lest he should "needlessly shock many who cared for him," while "no good could result from a more explicit statement." The whole spirit of the confession of error which follows is manly and earnest, but, not unnaturally, somewhat restrained;—so that one feels it is not the expression of all the heart of a man who sacrificed power and opportunity to serve God, sanctioned error by both teaching and example, and now penitently returns to truth, and deprecates what he may have done to injure others. It is well that he does not "dwell upon the details of his scepticism, or the trains of thought, of reading, or of feeling by which he was led to that state of mind" which the words we have before quoted describe. It is, however, significantly said:—"Having once entered upon a course of growing unbelief, I lost that loving appreciation of Christ and Him crucified which is the vital breath of our religion. Living under the unfavourable condition of habitual doubt, I lost—what every clergyman and every Christian should pray and strive to retain in all their freshness—the sense of sin forgiven, the consciousness of dependence upon God and Christ for everything, the habit of constant communion with Him who tells us to come to Him and find rest unto our souls." Some approaches made to Mr. Macnaught on the subject of preaching as a Nonconformist, led to a reconsideration of the Christian facts; by which he found himself again brought under "the power of Christ's Gospel": and as subsidiary to that higher influence, he mentions that "the Bishop of London showed him an amount of kindness, and gave him comfort and counsel in a manner which he had no right to expect, and which he cannot sufficiently acknowledge"; and that "amongst the influences blessed by God to the bringing about of his present faith and happiness," he must acknowledge with gratitude "the unceasing tolerance and kindness, as well as the unwearied prayers, of Christian friends among the laity and clergy, who have always been faithful to him through every crisis."

This little work consists of only three chapters, on the Ethical Evidences, the Historical and other Evidences, and the Doctrines of Christianity. It is no surprise to us (notwithstanding what we have alleged of it as an account of the reasonings of one who has returned to Christianity from "the discontent and misery of scepticism," but who might have been supposed familiar with all these considerations before), that it contains nothing new. Yet it gives prominence to certain aspects of the evidence for Christianity that are not always put impressively; and it is always clear, interesting, and forcible in its statements. We can only join in the author's prayer that God may mercifully bless its pages to those who may be more willing to receive the guidance of one who knows the side of disbelief as well as that of faith, than the instructions of such as have never forsaken the acknowledged paths.

It is not unnecessary to add that the reaction in Mr. Macnaught's case is so complete that we find him taking up a conservative position on the subject of Inspiration, which many of the most orthodox divines have found untenable,—namely, maintaining, from Paul's declaration that the words of his teaching were "not the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth," that "the very words, alike of the inspired discourses and of the inspired writings, were taught by the Spirit of God." On the subject of the Atonement, also, the author avows the full belief that it consisted in the vicarious and penal suffering of our Lord, with the purpose not only of reconciling us to the Father, but also as the appointed and effective means of reconciling the Father to us. On both these, and on some other matters, we think we see marks of a still continuing incompleteness of mind, and unfitness for delicate theological discussion, such as we attributed to Mr. Macnaught's first work.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY—RECENT CHANGES.*

It is some seven years since Mr. Potts published a very useful manual, which we duly

* *Liber Cantabrigiænsis*. Part II. An Account of the Changes made by Recent Legislation in the Colleges and the University of Cambridge. By ROBERT POTTS, M.A. London: Parker, Son, and Bourn.

noticed at the time, containing an account of the aids, the encouragements, and the rewards offered to students, at the Colleges and University of Cambridge. Since then we have seen Dissenting senior-wranglers, and other pleasant indications of something of public character having been given to that time-honoured University. But it is well known that the higher rewards are still the exclusive property of the Episcopal section of the national community; and much remains to be done to assert the rights, and to secure the equal privileges, of all classes resorting to Cambridge for education. Something seems likely to be attempted in the right direction, both by liberal men belonging to the governing body in the Universities, and by the new class, which is now admitted partly to share in their advantages. It is important that the actual state of things, as settled by the latest legislation, should be known. We therefore welcome a second part of the *Liber Cantabrigiænsis*, on which Mr. Potts has bestowed all possible pains, so as to make it a complete account of changes that have been effected since his former volume appeared. Whoever would repair to Cambridge, or is interested in its present condition as providing for the preparation of a learned class, will find this book the full and sufficient guide needed; and indeed almost indispensable to a knowledge of more than the single path by which a young man of means enters himself at one of the colleges, for the sake of social rather than educational advantage. But the higher interest of the book to us is, that, apart from the author's special intention, it brings all the facts into a single view, which are necessary to the intelligent and rightly directed action of those who would still further nationalise the seats of learning which religious exclusiveness so long monopolised. In this view of it, we shall add a few paragraphs on changes which legislation has recently effected, and on a general question which Mr. Potts has felt unable to pass over.

Under the Cambridge University Act, "the ancient liberties of the University have been restored,—all academical oaths have been abolished,—and the power is granted of conferring Degrees," in all departments of learning customarily so distinguished, except Divinity, "on all persons who have performed the conditions and exercises prescribed by the Statutes, independently of every other consideration." Divinity Degrees are conferred only on persons admitted to "Holy orders" in the Established Church. In the Revised Statutes of the Colleges, several important changes have been made, which have the effect of secularising a portion of their endowments, with a view to the general encouragement of Academical distinction, rather than to furnish inducement to entrance on the service of the Church. This, of course, is disapproved by those who are accustomed to think of a University as only the grand bait whereby a supply is obtained for the wants of the Church. Mr. Potts inclines to look on such changes with disfavour. "In several of the Colleges the obligation of Fellows to enter into Holy Orders has been considerably relaxed." The rule of Celibacy is "in some Colleges retained, in others modified, and in some few entirely abolished." Provision has been made variously for the augmentation of the scholarship funds at all the Colleges; and liberal concessions have been made as to the competition of students for Exhibitions before coming into residence. And lastly, it is expressly provided that "it shall not be necessary for any person, on obtaining any Exhibition, scholarship, or other College emolument available for the assistance of an Undergraduate Student, to make or subscribe any declaration of his religious opinion or belief, or to take any oath whatever." All this is well;—let it be generously and gratefully acknowledged. As much as this was accounted an impossibility, in 1852, when we ourselves advocated, in a series of articles, an agitation for University Reform. But a greater change still has to be made,—and must come.

The remaining great injustice, whereby the truly national character of the Universities is practically denied, and a wrong inflicted on all but Episcopalians by withholding the rewards of eminence, is the decree concerning Fellowships,—that no other persons shall be eligible to them than members of the Establishment. Every College may, indeed, elect distinguished persons as Honorary Fellows, without such limitation; but the cakes and ale are for Churchmen alone; and the Honorary Fellows must be content to be "without voice or authority in the College, and without claim to dividend or College patronage." Mr. Potts defends this state of things,—thus:

"The necessity and reasonableness of this regulation must be evident, as the Colleges are places of Education, Learning, and Religion. It has long been the high character of the University of Cambridge to maintain only what is true and pure in Religion; and there never has been a period in the History of the University, when it regarded all religions as equally true. . . . If truth and consistency are to be held of any account, the

* *Christianity and its Evidences*: an Essay: with an Epistle of Dedication to his former Congregation. By JOHN MACNAUGHT, M.A. London: Longman and Co.

legislature has determined wisely that all persons eligible to Foundation Fellowships should be *bond fide* members of the United Church of England and Ireland."

It will be seen that all this proceeds upon the supposition that the Episcopal Church has some vested right in the Universities, and that the preservation of their religious character, professedly, is involved in the very conception of their end and aim. We maintain on the contrary, as we did ten years ago, the doctrine of Lord Coke, that "Collegiate bodies are, and 'hold their possessions, for the public good'; and that the change made at the Reformation, which took effect on those colleges which were founded as ecclesiastical institutions as well as on those which were intended but as houses for poor students, was a greater change than any which could now be effected, and is the example of that change which is now called for by the changed circumstances and spirit of the nation, and which will need to be followed by yet other changes in successive generations, to render the colleges conducive to the highest interest of both the University and the country. The last vestiges of the pretence to *private* right have been swept away by changes already made on the ground both of convenience and of public expediency. Mr. Potts looks with horror on the possibility of a college in which 'the Tutor may be of the circumcision, the Dean of the uncircumcision, and the Master of neither.' But we may ask, whether, for the purposes simply of education, and the reward of learning, this would be any practical difficulty? And if it be said that the social, the almost domestic character of the life of the Fellows—in Hall and Combination-room for an hour or two a-day!—would be liable to unpleasant interruption by the admission of religious aliens, we would still ask, what difficulty has been experienced from having *Fellow-Commoners*, who were Jews, Mahometans, and Nonconformists? We speak from an outside point of view; but are persuaded of the absurdity of both the religious and social pleas of those who would preserve the reign of religious exclusiveness in the Colleges for the advantage and prestige of their own Church. And we believe the time is not far off when Parliament will deal with this question, not alone on the ground of public expediency, but of simple and undeniable justice.

THE NEW TESTAMENT CANON.*

Dr. Gaussen, as will be known to many of our readers, is one of the ablest living defenders of the doctrine of Verbal Inspiration. In many of his views we are unable to concur, but it is impossible not to admire the earnestness with which they are held and the power with which they are advocated. Everywhere it is manifest that he writes out of the depth of his own convictions, while his works are always pervaded by a spirit which shows that with him Christianity is a power ruling in the heart as well as a creed accepted by the intellect. The present book is no exception to this rule, and, whatever estimate may be formed as to many of the conclusions reached, it is to be commended alike for the careful research to which it testifies, and the devout and loving spirit which it breathes. The author was led to enter upon his task by a feeling that the defence of the Gospel must adapt itself to the mode of assault adopted by the enemy—that "the apologetics of to-day is no longer that 'which our fathers required, nor is it that which 'will meet the wants of our children.' Substantially this is true. The scepticism of to-day, indeed, is not at all more profound in its philosophy, or more subtle in its objections, than that by which it was preceded. It is surprising to note how little originality is to be found in its reasonings, and how valuable are the works of the old Apologists in combating difficulties which are generally propounded with a pretentiousness which gives them an aspect much more formidable than the reality would warrant. Still there are phases of thought current among us which need to be carefully studied by the champion of the truth, if his advocacy is to have any power at all—we must not be satisfied with the old defences while all kind of ingenuity is at work to find out new modes of attack.

We doubt, however, whether Dr. Gaussen has rightly apprehended the character of the mind with which he has to deal. He sees very truly that the conflict of our days has reference to points which were but imperfectly treated by the great theologians of the past—that attack is now directed not from without, but from within, by men who claim to be regarded as Christians, "not only, as heretofore, against this or the 'other vital doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, but against the depository of them all'—and that it is on the point thus threatened

that the efforts of the defenders of the Gospel ought to be concentrated. But, valuable and striking as is the collection of facts here arranged in vindication of the canon, we must confess that the style of reasoning adopted does not appear to us calculated to exert much power on the class for whom it appears to be specially designed. There is, in fact, no attempt to grapple with their objections. Probably the writer would tell us that it lay beyond the field of inquiry occupied by the volume, whose design was mainly to adduce the positive testimonies in favour of the canon, not to enter into any discussions relative to Inspiration. We would not be understood as at all underrating the value of such evidence, or the importance of the author's labours in collecting it. We think, rather, that the great mistake of many defenders of the Bible has been their readiness to confine themselves almost entirely to a refutation of the arguments of objectors, and we believe that this exhibition of the opposite side will do much to confirm the faith of Christians. Whether it will have a corresponding effect on minds disposed to cavil is the point we question. We fear that they would refuse to accept the principles on which the argument rests, and would be found wanting the spirit necessary to give it its legitimate weight.

Be this as it may, the book is one of considerable value, and is rendered all the more interesting by the circumstances which gave it birth. In the Evangelical School of Theology at Geneva, founded for the express purpose of rescuing the old Church of Calvin from the false doctrine by which it had so long been overrun, Neologian sympathies and opinions had made their appeal, and chiefly among a few French, Belgian, and Canadian students. Instead of summarily dismissing these young men, Dr. Gaussen thought that an effort should first be made to reclaim them from the errors into which they had been betrayed. His remarks on the point are so characteristic of the man and so suggestive of valuable lessons for some in our own country, that we cannot refrain from quoting them. We would, however, remind those who clamour for a liberty based on a dishonest violation of their own vows that these young men were learners not teachers, students not professors, that they were not holding rank and enjoying emoluments as the reward for preaching the doctrines they had renounced.

"The declarations of these young men were of such a nature that we should have felt it our duty on any other occasion to have dismissed them immediately from our institution. We had admitted them only to prepare them for preaching the Word of Life, and if henceforth they rejected that Word, its inspiration, its authenticity, its authority, what was there in common between them and ourselves? But we took a different view. We believed that we owed them some reparation, because the evil done to themselves had taken place when under our care, and we conceived that under these circumstances we ought not to send any of them away until we had taken pains by fresh efforts to bring them back, if possible, to own the authority of the Scriptures."

Surely this was the most wise, charitable, and Christian course, and that most in harmony with the spirit of Him who condescended with such infinite pity to satisfy the doubts of Thomas. If we had more of this temper and less of that wretched disposition to hunt out heresy, which makes a man an offender for a word, which sets forth the narrowest possible creed as the one true Christian faith, and in the bitterest possible spirit, which it mistakes for Christian zeal, condemns every man who departs by one hair's breadth from its standard, we should anticipate better results from the controversies of the day. Too often our disputants seem to forget that the purpose of the Christian is not so much to silence as to convince and convert the gainsayer, and that he has accomplished but a poor triumph if he has only exposed the errors of his opponent, and has, in doing it, strengthened the opposition of his heart to the Gospel. Dr. Gaussen feels rightly on the responsibility of his relations to these young men, and these lectures were written in the hope of carrying out his purpose. We should have been glad to learn that the result answered his hopes. But however that may have been, he will have the consolation of feeling that no harshness of his has repelled these youths from Christianity.

The book is devoted entirely to questions connected with the Canon of Holy Scriptures, and, so far as the historic review is concerned, it is restricted solely to that of the New Testament. The subject is divided into two parts, the first an appeal to science, the second to faith; the first addressed both to believers and unbelievers, the second consisting of considerations that can be expected to have force only with the former class. "The Church has two modes of verifying the 'canon—that of science which appeals to history 'or sacred criticism, and that of faith which 'appeals to a doctrine or principle (*à une dogme*)."

The work follows both lines of enquiry. The New Testament writings are divided by our author into three classes. The first, which

he designates the *First Canon*, embraces twenty books, and includes *eight-ninths* of the entire New Testament. As to the authority of these there has never been a doubt entertained in the Church—they appear in all the catalogues, are accepted by all the fathers, and are recognised as canonical alike by the orthodox and heretic. The second, called the *Second Canon*, though received from the first, according to Eusebius, by the majority both of the churches and ecclesiastical writers, did not at once receive that undisputed assent which was accorded to the others. They include only five small Epistles, which form altogether not more than a thirty-sixth part of the New Testament, and Dr. Gaussen endeavours to show that the difficulties in the way of their acceptance arose altogether from circumstances that do not at all diminish their value. "They were sent to 'Christian people just at the moment when their 'authors were about to disappear by death, and 'moreover, addressed to the whole body of 'believers, and had not the same advantages as 'the greater part of the other apostolic writings 'for being at once universally received." The Epistle to the Hebrews and the Apocalypse are classed together, because both of them were at first received with the same unanimity as the rest of the "Homologoumena," with which indeed Eusebius ranks them. It is impossible, therefore, to class them in the second division, and yet the doubts which were stated relative to them at a later date forbid their being placed in the first. Our author consequently puts them by themselves and styles them the *Second-first Canon*. The objections taken to them were on dogmatic, not historical, grounds, and are entitled to no weight. From the beginning, therefore, the great portion of the New Testament was received into the canon by all the churches; what differences did exist were settled at the Council of Nice and have never been revived. Such are the principal propositions laid down by Dr. Gaussen, and they are sustained with great power. The historic review of the question at issue is very careful and extended, and cannot fail to be interesting even to those who differ most widely from the conclusions reached. It is well to remind the world that the authenticity of the sacred writings is guaranteed by an amount of evidence which no other literary productions could plead on their behalf. Ancient versions, the writings of the Fathers, the testimony of heretics and even that of Pagan unbelievers, all yield valuable testimony to the patient enquirer, and the field has been very diligently cultivated by our author, and the results he has obtained are most valuable.

The second part contains a review of the working of Divine Providence in attestation of the truth of Scripture. Many will think that some of the reasonings are more ingenious than true, but no devout mind can study them without profit and pleasure. No sketch of the argument which we could give here would do it any measure of justice. We must content ourselves, therefore, with expressing our personal obligations to the writer for the pleasure the perusal has afforded ourselves, and recommending all our readers interested in the question (and who is not?) to secure a similar enjoyment for themselves. We do not say the reasoning will convert the sceptic, or be always accepted as valid by the believer, but it will show that the Bible has a history which itself forms a powerful argument in vindication of its claims.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Freedom and Slavery in the United States of America. By BAPTIST W. NOEL. (Nisbet and Co.) The recent public appearances of Mr. Noel on the American Question render it unnecessary that we should attempt to explain his general views or to illustrate his own enforcement of them. This volume has the calm thoughtfulness, the fulness of conviction, the elevated feeling, and the uncompromising decision, which have ever so eminently marked the character of the author. The subject has been well studied; and there can be no question that its facts, gathered from every possible source, and its carefully-drawn conclusions, will make a deep impression on the minds of those who love freedom and cherish Christian sympathies and purposes. If the questions underlying the American struggle had not been so largely discussed in our columns for months past, we should make many extracts from this book, for which, as it is, we have hardly space at command. Mr. Noel intimates that in another work he shall endeavour to prove that the Slave States have seceded without having suffered any wrong,—that their secession, being unconstitutional, is a rebellion which the Government ought to suppress,—that the object of the slaveholders is to perpetuate and extend slavery, with a view to which they have sought to inflict intolerable evils upon their country; and the object of the Government is to save the country, with a view to which they will emancipate the slaves,—that the Government is likely to suppress the rebellion,—and that the reunion of the two sections of the country will be for the happiness of both. The last two items are especially questionable, and will seem so even to many who sympathise with the position and

* *The Canon of the Holy Scriptures, from the Double Point of View of Science and Faith.* By L. GAUSSEN, D.D. London: James Nisbet and Co.

aim of the North. But there can be no doubt of Mr. Noel's most pure and earnest devotion of himself to this cause, as required by philanthropy and the fear of God. There is little present seeming of the Slave States being brought to "accept emancipation as inevitable, and submit to their Government, with which they have no other [query] "cause of quarrel."—*The Story of the Life of John Anderson, the Fugitive Slave*. Edited by HARPER TWELVETREES, M.A. (W. Tweedie.) By far the larger part of this book is taken up with the legal proceedings, speeches at public meetings, and correspondence, relative to the notorious case of Anderson, and the claim of the United States' Government concerning him. Some twenty-four pages contain Anderson's personal story, and illustrate, much as many similar stories do, the actual condition of the slave generally. There are no peculiar features in his life; and nothing to excite peculiar interest in the man, so far as this book makes him known in his personality. But the political and international questions which arose out of his case will preserve a name that had no other claim to notice more than thousands of his race.—*The Flower of Christian Chivalry*. By Mrs. W. R. LLOYD. With Illustrations by J. D. WATSON. (Hogg and Sons.) This is, we see, one of the "Books with a Meaning"; and the author informs us that, "in selecting her bouquet, she 'has strolled about in the wide historic garden, 'choosing now, perhaps, for the sake of a rare 'scent, now of a fair bloom, but more commonly because 'of some one excellent virtue—a remedy for the prevailing ill of the day.' This superfine writing is enough to turn one aside from the book it prefaces: but we are glad to say that there seems little of it in the book itself. Several of the sketches we have read with pleasure, and with appreciation of the care, intelligence, and sympathy of the writer. The title is hardly good for narratives of Bernard of Meuthon, Bernard of Clairvaux, Savonarola, Pinel, Patrick Hamilton, Granville Sharp, Henry Martyn, and—above all—Kirke White! "Flower of Chivalry"!—well, truly, chivalry is not to be found amongst knights and courtiers, in battles or at tournaments, alone: but there are fifty better words for that quality in the men named, which the author chooses to express imperfectly by *chivalry*. Much of the book will be very fresh and enjoyable to those who are not largely read. It is unquestionably one of the best volumes of the series: and the illustrations by Mr. Watson, engraved by Dilziel, form quite a feature of the volume.—*The Story of Little Alfred*. By D. J. E. (Elliot Stock.) A tenderly-written sketch of the character and life of a little child, in whom appeared that surprising religious susceptibility which sometimes both attracts and awes in children, and is so often followed by their removal to that world to which they seemed naturally to belong. Parents who have lost a child will read this little simple story with tearful interest,—and ought not to miss some encouragement and aid to the faith and hope with which the training and dedication of childhood are observed by them. It is seldom, in our experience, that a task so delicate—so utterly ruined if touched with formality or exaggeration—has been so gracefully performed, with genuine feeling and reverence, as by the writer of this little memoir.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Dr. N. Davis, author of "Carthage and its Remains," "Ruined Cities of Africa," &c., has just set out for Abyssinia.

Mr. R. H. Horne, the poet, who has for some years resided in Australia, has written a poem on the heroic deeds and tragic end of Burke and Wills, the Australian explorers.

Messrs. Hamilton and Co. will publish immediately a new work by Thomas Tyler, B.A., author of "Jehovah the Redeemer God," entitled, "Christ the Lord, the Revealed of God, and the Fulfilment of the Prophetic Name Jehovah, with a Reply to Bishop Colenso on the name Jehovah."

The *Reader* says that the long-promised new reading-room of the Record-office is about to be commenced in good earnest. The building, designed after the model of Mr. Panizzi's temple, is to form the south-western wing of the group of buildings on the Rolls estate, Fetter-lane. Mr. Pennythorne is the architect of the new edifice, in the construction of which the Parliamentary grant of 20,000*l.*, or probably something more, will be expended.

A new work by M. Récan, entitled "The Origin of Christianity," is about to be published in Paris. It was to have been called "The Life of Jesus," but from the well-known theological opinions of the author it was thought that this title might give offence and condemn the book beforehand.

The Memorial of the Exhibition of 1851, which has been erected in the Royal Horticultural Gardens, is to be inaugurated on the 10th of June, and not on the 5th of June, as had been intended. The Prince of Wales will uncover the statue, and the Princess of Wales and other members of the Royal family will be present.

Dr. Brewer, of the Record-office, writes to announce the death of Mr. Turnbull, who was lately employed at that office as an editor of the *Calendars of State Papers*. It will be remembered that two years ago objections were made to his appointment by the Protestant Alliance on the ground of his religion, which ended in Mr. Turnbull's retirement from the public service. Ever since then ill-health and anxiety have broken down a frame that was

naturally vigorous, and death terminated his sufferings on Wednesday last.

THE REPUTED FOSSIL MAN OF ABBEVILLE.—The asserted discovery of a fossil human jaw at Abbeville has been the subject of a communication to the Royal Society, and at the present moment it is exciting interest in the scientific circles of both England and France. Having passed a couple of days at Abbeville with M. Boucher de Perthes closely examining all the circumstances of the case, and having been entrusted by him with some of the specimens, which are now here, Dr. Falconer is in a position to throw some light on the subject. His inference is that a very clever imposition has been practised by the *terrassiers* of the Abbeville gravel-pits—"so cunningly clever that it could not have been surpassed by a committee of anthropologists enacting a practical joke. The selection of the specimen was probably accidental; but it is not a little singular that a jaw containing so many peculiarities should have been hit upon by uneducated workmen. The break-down in this spurious case in no wise affects the value of the real evidence, now well established, but it inculcates a grave lesson of caution."

Cleanings.

A man advertises a clock for sale which keeps time like a tax-gatherer.

Photographs of the principal Polish insurgents have an immense sale in Paris just now.

Mr. Eugene Rimmel, of 96, Strand, has had the honour of being appointed perfumer to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

The number of visitors to Kew Gardens on the Sundays of last year was nearly as large as on all the other days of the week put together.

A northern contemporary "deeply regrets" that an unsuccessful attempt at garrotting was made at Lerwick recently!

ZUMMERZETTSHEER.—The following notice, said to have been stuck up at the market-house of Taunton, exemplifies the local dialect:—"Lost, a hempty zack we another zack in un, a wet-stun, and a pecke ov taters. Eny body vinding the same and oll bring un to Varmer Dussan, at the Nag's Hid, shall ha dree shilling gied to un, and a heap o' drink."

A MUSICAL BED.—Several foreign journals speak of an invention just produced in Germany, namely, a musical bed so constructed that by means of a concealed piece of mechanism "the pressure of the body produces the softest harmony," which lasts long enough to lull one to sleep. At the head of the bed is a dial with a hand, which can be placed at whatever hour the person wishes to awake; and at the time fixed "the bed plays a march of Spontini, with drums and cymbals, loud enough to awake the soundest sleeper."

I KNOW'D I'D FORGOT SU'THIN'.—"I say, capen," said a keen-eyed man, as he landed from the steamer Potomac, at Natchez, "I say, capen, this 'ere ain't all; I've left su'thin' or nother on board, that's a fac. We'll see now. I grant it's all 'ordin to list—four boxes, three obists, two brandy-boxes, a portmony, two hams (one part used), three ropes of inyuns, and one tea-kettle. But you see, capen, I'm kinder dubersome; I feel like as if su'thin's short; though I have counted um nine times, and never took my eyes off on 'em sense I came on board, I feel there's su'thin' wrong there."—"Well, stranger, time's up, all I know on, so jest fetch your ole woman and five children out of the cabin, for we must be off."—"Them's um! by hokey! them's um! I knowd I'd forgot su'thin' or nuther."

A PALMERSTONIAN JOKE.—The following anecdote, illustrative of the Premier's love of fun, which we have on excellent authority, is too good to be lost. During his lordship's recent visit to Glasgow, the working men formed a deputation to present his lordship with an address. After Lord Palmerston and his suite had retired from the conference, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, addressing the Premier, said, "My lord, it must be a great bore to you to receive and hear so many deputations from all parts of the country." "Oh, yes," said Palmerston, "but it is my duty, and I get over it very easily. However, I have had some very curious deputations waiting on me in my time. You all remember, of course, the tragedy of Rugeley, where Palmer poisoned Cook with strychnine. Well, what d'ye think? A deputation of the principal inhabitants came up to me praying that I should give my consent to changing the name of the town, as it had become so infamous by the murder. After talking to them for a few minutes, I said, 'Gentlemen, the town belongs to So-and-so, who would require to be consulted.' The deputation thought that I could settle the matter at once. I then asked them what they could propose as a new name, and they left it to me. 'So,' I said, 'in that case the only and best name I could suggest is *Palmerston*!' I can tell you that no deputation ever left my room quicker than they did."—*Leeds Mercury*.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—DISCOMFORT OR PAIN.—A certain feeling of uneasiness, with occasional flying pains through the body, prove the digestion to be imperfect—a failing so common that few can boast they are and have been free from it. Without seeking the cause an infallible remedy can be prescribed in Holloway's Pills. In all cases of overflow of bile, weak stomach, or bad digestion, whether accidental or habitual, the most delicate invalid may take these famous Pills with confidence and safety. No ill result can follow their judicious use. Thousands suffering from uneasy sensations and low spirits acknowledge that whenever they feel unwell or out of sorts their never-failing remedy is found in plentiful doses of Holloway's Pills.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTH.

BARNARD.—April 23, at Milner-square, Islington, the wife of W. T. Barnard, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

TODD—BINNS.—April 16, at Highfield Independent Chapel, Huddersfield, by the Rev. R. Bruce, Mr. William Todd, of Newtown, to Miss Emma Beaumont Binns, of South-street.

POCHIN—PARKER.—April 21, at Belvoir-street Chapel, Leicester. Mr. Samuel Davis Pochin, eldest son of Mr. Pochin, to Mary Jane Parker, eldest daughter of Mr. Wm. Parker, of the Haymarket, Leicester.

STARK—M'EWEN.—April 22, at the United Presbyterian Church, Brunswick-street, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, by the Rev. W. M'Kerrow, D.D., Mr. David Stark, to Agnes Dunbar, fourth daughter of the late William M'EWen, Esq., of Wigan.

YEADON—ACKROYD.—April 23, at the Baptist Chapel, Gildersome, the Rev. James Edward Yeadon, of Whitelock, Salop, to Keziah Sarah, second daughter of Edw. Ackroyd, Esq., of Gildersome.

LEAF—GRUNDY.—April 23, at the Unitarian Chapel, Bury, by the Rev. John Wright, B.A., Alfred, eldest son of William Leaf, Esq., Leaf-square, Pendleton, to Harriett Jane, eldest daughter of John Grundy, Esq., The Dales, near Manchester. No cards.

REYNOLDS—MILES.—April 23, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Westminster, Bassett Reynolds, of Bury St. Edmund's, to Julia, eldest daughter of Edward Miles, surgeon dentist, of Liverpool-street, Bishopsgate, London, and Lorraine-road, Holloway. No cards.

DEATHS.

SMITH.—April 18, at Ivy House, Hackney, after a very short illness, Benjamin Franklin Smith, Esq., of Norfolk Lodge, near Barnet, and Wine-office-court, Fleet-street, aged thirty-nine.

PAYNTER.—April 20, at 53, Thurloe-square, Thomas Paynter, Esq., J.P., of Boskenna, Cornwall, and late one of the magistrates of Westminster Police-court, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

WARD.—April 20, at No. 2, St. George's-place, Canterbury, aged forty-seven, Mary Elizabeth Ward, wife of the Rev. Valentine Ward, Union Chapel, Canterbury.

PENN.—April 21, at Richmond, Surrey, in the eightieth year of his age, Richard Penn, Esq., great grandson of William Penn, of Pennsylvania.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, April 22.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£29,191,830	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	5,634,000
		Gold Bullion	14,541,630
		Silver Bullion	—
	£29,191,830		£29,191,830

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,853,000	Government Securities	£12,051,395
Reserve	3,100,148	Other Securities ..	18,034,138
Public Deposits	6,316,413	Notes	8,301,525
Other Deposits	14,732,897	Gold & Silver Coin	845,321
Seven Day and other Bills	612,921		
	£29,322,379		£29,322,379

April 23, 1863.

W. MILLER, Deputy Cashier.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, April 27.

We had a very moderate supply of English wheat this morning, and only small arrivals of foreign. The trade ruled much firmer; and the English wheat was cleared off at an advance of 1*s* per qr on last Monday's prices. In foreign an improved business was done, and was 1*s* per qr dearer than last week. The flour trade was also in an improved condition, and held at an advance of 6*d* per barrel. Beans and peas were without alteration in price. Barley was firm, and in good request at the extreme rates of last week. The arrival of foreign oats noted in the return have not been large the last few days. At an advance of 6*d* per qr on the rates of this day week there was a fair business done. Cargoes for orders of the coast are steady in value and demand.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7*d* to 8*d*; household ditto, 5*d* to 7*d*.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, April 27.

There was only a moderate supply of foreign stock on offer in our market to-day, and the general quality of both beasts and sheep was very middling. Sales progressed steadily, at about the quotations of last week. For the time of year the arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts was good, and in full average condition. Those from Ireland were trifling, but rather a large supply reached us from Scotland, mostly of prime quality. Compared to last Monday, the beef trade was rather more active; nevertheless, Thursday's improvement in the value of the best breeds was not generally supported. The very best Scots and crosses realised 4*s* 8*d* per 8*lb*s. The receipts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire comprised 2,500 Scots, shorthorns, and crosses; from other parts of England, 400 various breeds; from Scotland, 420 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 20 oxen and heifers. We were fairly supplied with most breeds of sheep, the quality of which was good and prime. Nearly all breeds moved off slowly, yet no change took place in the quotations. The best Downs in the wool realised 5*s* 8*d*, out of the wool 4*s* 8*d* to (in some instances) 4*s* 10*d*; prime half-breeds 4*s* 6*d*; prime Lincolns and Leicesters 4*s* to 4*s* 4*d* per 8*lb*s. The supply of lambs from the Isle of Wight amounted to 800, and the arrivals from other quarters were good. The lamb trade was in a sluggish state, and prices had a drooping tendency. Prices ranged from 6*s* 4*d* to 7*s* 6*d* per 8*lb*s. The veal trade was stony, at prices quite equal to Monday last. The supply was very moderate. The pork trade was in a dull state, on rather easier terms.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	2	3	4	Prime Southdown	5	6	5	8
Second quality	3	6	3	10	Lambs	6	4	7	6
Prime large oxen	4	0	4	4	Lge. coarse calves	4	0	4	8
Prime Scots, &c.	4	6	4	8	Prime small	4	0	5	2
Coarse inf. sheep	3	6	3	10	Large hogs	3	4	4	0
Second quality	4	0	4	6	Newam. porkers	4	2	4	6
Pr. coarse woolled	4	8	5	4					

Suckling calves, 12*s* to 20*s*. Quarter-old store pigs, 19*s* to 25*s* each

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 27.

Fair average supplies of town and country-killed meat are on sale at these markets. In all descriptions of beef, mutton, lamb, and veal a steady demand was experienced; but pork is dull, at late quotations.

Per 8lbs by the carcass.			
a. d.	s. d.	a. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef . . .	2 10 to 3 2	Small pork . . .	4 2 to 4 6
Middling ditto . .	3 4 to 3 6	Inf. mutton . . .	3 2 to 3 6
Prime large do. . .	3 8 to 3 10	Middling ditto . .	3 8 to 4 0
Do. small do. . . .	4 0 to 4 2	Prime ditto . . .	4 2 to 4 4
Large pork	3 6 to 4 0	Veal	4 0 to 4 8

Lamb 6s 6d to 7s 0d.

PRODUCE MARKET, Tuesday, April 28.

TEA.—There has been but little business doing for all descriptions, and there is no change to be noticed in prices.

SUGAR.—There has been but a limited amount of business transacted in this market to-day at the public sales. Previous quotations are maintained, but importers had to buy in freely to support them, and privately there has only been a moderate demand. For refined descriptions prices are generally well maintained, but business continues limited, owing to the small quantity offering.

COFFEE.—The amount of business recorded in this market at the public sales has been to a moderate extent, and late prices have been fully sustained.

SALTETRE.—The amount of business transacted has been to a limited extent, and quotations are fully supported.

PROVISIONS, Monday, April 27.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 651 Arkins butter, and 3,451 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 12,830 casks butter, and 289 bales and 3,667 boxes of bacon. In old Irish butter there is scarcely anything passing in sales; some new fourth Corks arrived; the quality good, selling at 60s landed; a few thirds sold at 86s to arrive. Foreign met a steady sale. Best Dutch 10s to 10 1/2s. The bacon market continued quiet, and the sales effected were at a decline of about 1s per cwt. Holders do not press sales at the reduction, expecting an improved demand very shortly; landed rates are from 50s to 62s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, April 27.—For the time of year, these markets are extensively supplied with home-grown potatoes; and the imports of foreign produce since our last have amounted to 180 tons from Dun-kirk, and 130 tons from Brussels. The trade, generally speaking, rules inactive, yet prices are without material change. From Monday last the currency is as follows:—Yorkshire Regents 100s to 130s, Yorkshire Flukes 130s to 150s, Yorkshire Rocks 90s to 100s, Yorkshire Seedlings 100s to 110s, Kent and Essex Regents 110s to 130s, Scotch Regents 80s to 110s, Scotch Rocks 75s to 85s, Scotch Reds 70s to 75s, Foreign 50s to 60s per ton.

WOOL, Monday, April 27.—Although money in the discount market has become somewhat easier, there is no disposition shown to purchase home-grown wool, except for immediate consumption. There is a full average supply on offer, and holders, generally, are willing sellers at current rates. The export demand is trifling.

SEEDS, Monday, April 27.—The retail demand for seeds continues for all descriptions. American red seed, with less offering, was firmer in value; other qualities were without alteration; white seed meets a slow sale, without alteration from the quotations of last week. Trefoils are in less supply, and sold at last week's rates.

OIL, Monday, April 27.—Lined oil moves off steadily, at 43s 6d per cwt on the spot. All other oils are a slow sale, yet prices are about stationary. Turpentine is firmer, and French spirits have realised 93s per cwt, refined Petroleum 1s 9d per gallon.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, April 25.—Flax supports previous rates; but the demand is by no means active. Hemp moves off slowly; nevertheless, clean Russian is worth 38s to 39s per ton. Jute is very firm, and in some instances prices have advanced 13s per ton. Coir goods support last week's currency.

TALLOW, Monday, April 27.—A great improvement has taken place in the tallow trade since we last wrote, and an advance of 9d per cwt has taken place in prices. To-day St. Petersburg Y.C. is quoted at 43s 6d per cwt on the spot, and 47s for October to December delivery. Town tallow is quoted at 41s 6d per cwt net cash. Rough fat is selling at 2s 2 1/2d per 8lbs.

Advertisements.

MR. STENT, ARCHITECT, BUILDING SURVEYOR, &c., WARMINSTER, has an OPENING for an ARTICLED PUPIL.

TEETH!



TEETH!

OSTRO EIDON.

Patent, March 1, 1862 No. 560.

GABRIEL'S self-adhesive patent indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation. One set lasts a lifetime, and warranted for mastication or articulation. Purest material only, at half the usual cost.

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THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS

(Diploma, 1815).

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134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Consultations gratis. For an explanation of their various improvements, opinions of the press, testimonials, &c., see "Gabriel's Practical Treatise on the Teeth." Post free on application.

Entrance to the City Establishment, over Benson's, the Silversmith's.

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TEETH.—Messrs. LEWIN MOSELEY, and SONS' system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY, as shown and specially commended at the International Exhibition, Class 17, No. 3,534 Teeth from 5s. Sets from five guineas.—30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W. For the efficacy and success of this system vide "Lancet."

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

* Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSS and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

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SEWING MACHINES,

WITH RECENT IMPROVEMENTS.

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INSTRUCTION GRATIS.

Machines carefully packed and safe delivery guaranteed to any part of the country.

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superior MACHINES for every class of Family Work and Hemming, Felling, Tucking, Gathering, Cording, Braiding, Binding, are now ON SALE at their elegant and extensive Show Rooms, 135, Regent-street, W. and 98, Cheapside, E.C., London. They combine every adaptation known to science, are easily learned and operated. 70,000 in use in all parts of the world. Machines for all kinds of manufacturing and trade purposes. Shilful teachers on the premises. ILLUSTRATED PROSPECTUS POST FREE. Shipping orders executed.

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FITCH and SON'S BREAKFAST BACON

has received the approval of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who has honoured them with the special appointment of purveyors to his Royal Highness. This celebrated bacon is sold by the side, half-side, and separate pieces.

A price list sent free on application.

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Established 1784.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—CHURCHER'S

TOILET CREAM maintains its superiority for imparting richness, softness, and fragrance to the Hair, as well as being a most economical article. Price 1s., 1s. 6d., and 6s. Bachelor's Instantaneous Columbian Hair Dye is the best extant, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. per packet. Sold by Hairdressers, and at R. HOVENDEN'S, No. 5, Great Marlborough-street, W. and 57 and 58, Crown-street, Finsbury, E.C. N.B.—Wholesale warehouse for all Hairdressers' goods.

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GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing super-

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WATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

IF THIS SHOULD MEET THE EYE

of any one troubled with Wind in the Stomach, Indigestion, or Biliousness, take Page Woodcock's WIND PILLS. Eleven years of success have proved them of sterling merit. Of all Medicine Vendors at 1s. 1 1/2d. and 2s. 9d.; or free by post for fourteen or thirty-three stamps from PAGE D. WOOD COCK, Chemist, Lincoln.

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LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

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INDIA RUBBER CLOTHES WRINGER, price 20s., can be fixed upon any Tub or Washing Machine, and will wring three blankets or six sheets in a minute. Also a large size at 30s. Carriage free to any railway station in the kingdom from the Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

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MACHINE washes all kinds of Linen, Sheets, and Blankets with half the usual labour, firing, and soap. Prices, 21s., 45s., 55s., 75s. The same, with wringing and mangling apparatus combined, at 41. 10s., 51. 10s., 71. Also, HARPER TWELVETREES' PERFECT MANGLES, which prevent injury to buttons, at 30s., 40s., 50s., 60s., 70s. Compare the prices! Carriage free from the Works, Bromley-by-Bow, London, E.

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"Your Washing Machine does its work admirably, and saves very great deal of time and labour."

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STARCH.

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This INVALUABLE REMEDY produces quiet, refreshing sleep, relieves pain, calms the system, restores the deranged functions, and stimulates healthy action of the body—without creating any of those unpleasant results attending the use of opium. Old and young may take it at all hours and times when requisite. Thousands of persons testify to its marvellous good effects and wonderful cures, while medical men extol its virtues, using it in great quantities in the following diseases.

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PATTERN TOOTH BRUSHES, Penetrating Unbleached Hair Brushes, Improved Flesh Brushes, genuine Smyrna Sponges, and every description of brush and comb and perfumery for the toilet. Metcalfe's celebrated Alkaline Tooth Powder, 2s. per box.
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INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862.

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For the superiority of the

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This magnificent Establishment, accommodating 800 daily, is NOW OPEN, Sundays excepted. Public and Private Baths for Ladies and Gentlemen, price from 1s. 6d. upwards. N.B.—Baths for Horses. ORIENTAL BATH COMPANY of LONDON (Limited), Victoria-street, near the Station, Westminster.

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BROWN AND POLSON'S

PATENT CORN FLOUR.

In Packets, 8d.; and Tins, 1s.

To FAMILIES.—Cheap qualities are often charged extra price, and substituted or recommended for Brown and Polson's. Fraud would be discouraged by all other kinds being returned which are sent instead of the best.

RECIPE FOR INFANTS' FOOD.—To one dessert-spoonful of Brown and Polson, mixed with a wineglassful of cold water and a grain of salt, add half a pint of boiling water; stir over the fire for five minutes; sweeten to taste; if the infant is being brought up by the hand, this food should then be mixed with milk—not otherwise, as the use of the two different milks would be injurious.

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NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 27.
Fair average supplies of town and country-killed meat are on sale at these markets. In all descriptions of beef, mutton, lamb, and veal a steady demand was experienced; but pork is dull, at late quotations.

Per Sibs by the carcass.			
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Inferior beef	2 10 to 3 2	Small pork	4 2 to 4 6
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Lamb 6s 6d to 7s 0d.

PRODUCE MARKET, Tuesday, April 28.
TEA.—There has been but little business doing for all descriptions, and there is no change to be noticed in prices.
SUGAR.—There has been but a limited amount of business transacted in this market to-day at the public sales. Previous quotations are maintained, but importers had to buy in freely to support them, and privately there has only been a moderate demand. For refined descriptions prices are generally well maintained, but business continues limited, owing to the small quantity offering.
CORR.—The amount of business recorded in this market at the public sales has been to a moderate extent, and late prices have been fully sustained.
SALTPETRE.—The amount of business transacted has been to a limited extent, and quotations are fully supported.

PROVISIONS, Monday, April 27.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 651 firkins butter, and 3,451 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 12,830 casks butter, and 239 bales and 3,667 boxes of bacon. In old Irish butter there is scarcely anything passing in sales; some new fourth Corks arrived; the quality good, selling at 60s landed; a few thirds sold at 80s to arrive. Foreign met a steady sale. Best Dutch 10s to 10s 6d. The bacon market continued quiet, and the sales effected were at a decline of about 1s per cwt. Holders do not press sales at the reduction, expecting an improved demand very shortly; landed rates are from 56s to 62s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, April 27.—For the time of year, these markets are extensively supplied with home-grown potatoes; and the imports of foreign produce since our last have amounted to 140 tons from Dunkirk, and 130 tons from Brussels. The trade, generally speaking, rules inactive, yet prices are without material change. From Monday last the currency is as follows:—Yorkshire Regents 100s to 120s, Yorkshire Flukes 130s to 150s, Yorkshire Rocks 90s to 100s, Yorkshire Seedlings 100s to 110s, Kent and Essex Regents 110s to 130s, Scotch Regents 80s to 110s, Scotch Rocks 75s to 85s, Scotch Reds 70s to 75s, Foreign 50s to 60s per ton.

WOOL, Monday, April 27.—Although money in the discount market has become somewhat easier, there is no disposition shown to purchase home-grown wool, except for immediate consumption. There is a full average supply on offer, and holders, generally, are willing sellers at current rates. The export demand is trifling.

SEEDS, Monday, April 27.—The retail demand for seeds continues for all descriptions. American red seed, with less offering, was firmer in value; other qualities were without alteration; white seed insects a slow sale, without alteration from the quotations of last week. Trefoils are in less supply, and sold at last week's rates.

OIL, Monday, April 27.—Lined oil moves off steadily, at 45s 6d per cwt on the spot. All other oils are a slow sale, yet prices are about stationary. Turpentine is firmer, and French spirits have realised 93s per cwt, refined Petroleum 1s 9d per gallon.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, April 25.—Flax supports previous rates; but the demand is by no means active. Hemp moves off slowly; nevertheless, clean Russian is worth 38s to 39s per ton. Jute is very firm, and in some instances prices have advanced 15s per ton. Coir goods support last week's currency.

TALLOW, Monday, April 27.—A great improvement has taken place in the tallow trade since we last wrote, and an advance of 9d per cwt has taken place in prices. To-day St. Petersburg Y.C. is quoted at 45s 6d per cwt on the spot, and 47s for October to December delivery. Town tallow is quoted at 41s 6d per cwt net cash. Rough fat is selling at 2s 2d per sibs.

Advertisements.

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